FINANCIAL CALIFORNIA

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SAN FRANCISCO (YERBA BUENA) IN 1847 AT THE TIME OF THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION

Financial California

An Historical Review of the Beginnings and Progress of Banking in the State

By
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PREFACE

THE MATTER contained in this volume is an attempt to review the origin and development of banking in California. What is here set forth has been collated at the cost of much time and effort and in the face of unexpected difficulties in finding reliable sources of information relating to both banking conditions previous to the present generation and to the individual banks and bankers whose careers, severally and jointly, make up California's financial story from the banking standpoint. The complete lack of official records relating to incorporated banks before the creation of the Bank Commission in 1878, and to private banks before 1887, precludes statistical illumination of the story of the first generation, and makes difficult the mere recital of the names of the scattered banks that contributed indispensable service to the splendid development of a great commonwealth during an historic era. A few pioneer bankers have now and then set down brief recollections of the early-day bankers of their communities, but these contributions to the record relate mainly to San Francisco and are practically confined to the pioneer period.

In the effort to secure a fairly adequate record of banking development throughout California every bank in the state has been asked for aid in the quest, but the results have been disappointing. Amid constant change the past soon becomes nebulous; bankers are busy men and records of former days become scattered and buried. While the yield of a voluminous and long-conducted correspondence with bankers throughout the state has been disappointing from the historical standpoint, many have responded in a cordial spirit of co-operation that has won a warm appreciation which is here expressed. To numerous California bankers of long experience, both active and retired, gratitude is due for co-operation in many ways in securing whatever measure of value may characterize this record of Financial California. The publishers trust that what is presented in the following pages will be found to contain much of both interest and profit to a new generation of bankers and that the record presented will have a permanent value.

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An introductory review of the progress of banking and finance in California, beginning with the pioneer period, may properly serve to set forth some of the larger features of the state's financial development and afford a clearer perspective than a detailed chronicle. The record, from this broader standpoint, presents many interesting features which are lost to the great majority of the younger generation of bankers. It is difficult for a later-day student of earlier banking conditions to grasp many of these features in their true proportions and relations and achieve accuracy of statement and judicious estimates of events, influences, and conditions, both because of the fragmentary, inadequate, and obscure character of much of the material afforded by existing records and because of the marked changes which the character and spirit of the banking business have undergone in the course of a long evolutionary process.

Banking has been a feature of the history and development of California of much greater relative importance than has been assigned it in the annals of the state that have been compiled. These records are particularly copious in relation to the early pioneer period, reaching from the American conquest and Marshall's discovery of gold well into the decade of the '50s. This is natural because of the halo of romance that surrounds the stirring, picturesque, and heroic days of the Argonauts. These times preserved their strong appeal to the imagination and to these times the memories of the pioneers mainly harked back when in later years they recorded their experiences of the past. So it is that, as with many other features of the history of San Francisco and California, there are reliable records, as to names and dates, of the private bankers and banking firms of the first few years of the pioneer era, and the story they provide is set forth in following chapters.

Far more difficult is it to trace in detail the development of banking through the decades of the '60s and '70s. There are no official records antedating the creation of the Board of Bank Commissioners in 1878, which at first had no jurisdiction over private banks, which were not required to report to the Commission until 1886. Bankers of these two decades have recorded few reminiscences of the business of these times. The sources of information are mainly newspaper files. Doubtless the richest store of records which an historian might explore was destroyed in the San Francisco fire of April, 1906. Since 1878 a continuous record of the banking houses of California has existed, together with annual statistical summaries, and these afford in skeleton form a remarkable record of banking development in the state, taken together with the reports of the Comptroller of the Currency which afford a review of the development of the National system since the organization of the first National bank in 1871.

PAUCITY OF RECORDS

More interesting and illuminating than a complete record of individual banks and of annual summaries of aggregate capital, loans, deposits, and resources during these historically hazy earlier years would be an adequate exposition of the banking theory and practice of those times. In these days

banking journals, banking laws, clearing house associations, the proceedings of bankers' associations, and an otherwise copious literature of the profession, enable the student of banking to know thoroughly well just how other bankers are carrying on their business and to be familiar with the standardized, yet progressively changing methods and practices of their profession. But the California banking record of the first three decades is bare of all such professional discussion and record. The banking business had no organs of any kind, either to represent its interests before the public or to afford a mutual exchange of views among the bankers. There was little getting together among bankers, except when a few in San Francisco might occasionally and informally exchange views about some specific matter and perhaps make a more or less concerted effort to influence a bit of proposed state or local legislation affecting their interests. Reports of condition were not required or published. Each bank was a law unto itself in the conduct of its business for many years, possessing as much freedom of action as any merchant or broker. The managing banker was governed only by his conceptions of what he should do to achieve and maintain business success, including the confidence of the community as an asset, and he was free to use the capital and deposits of his institution as his judgment might dictate. There were many bankers of ability, experience, conservative judgment, and unswerving integrity in those times, but the record is plentifully sprinkled with failures and embarrassments, sometimes involving moral looseness and often a readiness to take risks for profit and a violation of what are today universally recognized as sound banking methods.

But such an account of banking conditions and methods as could be framed for the present time can not be given for that older generation, except in the most general way. The point may be expressed more clearly by observing that if an experienced bank examiner of today could be provided with a collection of detailed statements of condition of a number of California banks of the '50s and '60s, such as are required today, and could also judge the credits and investments in the light of their time, he could frame an historical study that would be intensely interesting and illuminating.

HOW BANKING BEGAN

Having its advent in the feverish gold rush of 1848-49, which provided its cause and early sustenance, California banking has an initial history as picturesque as the whole period to which it belonged and markedly distinct from the birth of the business in any other part of the world.

Like so much else in California history, its story definitely begins with James Marshall's discovery of gold in his little mill race on the Sierra Nevada slope, January 24, 1848. While gold had for years been found in small quantities in different localities, these finds had no relation to what followed, and Marshall's discovery was the efficient cause of the exciting rush and the development of the new gold fields that began at once. The gold seekers raced first from the Sacramento Valley and San Francisco and later in the year from the East. In the next year 40,000 people arrived at San Francisco.

It was not long after the first discovery that gold dust and nuggets began to arrive in San Francisco and the flow steadily increased, the new mining field yielding several million dollars before the end of the year. Though the great flood of arrivals from the East and elsewhere did not appear until the following year, before 1848 was over San Francisco had to a great extent taken on the character and spirit so often and so voluminously described with reference to 1849 and the immediately succeeding years. The spirit of speculation and gambling was rife and an eager pursuit of riches ruled the population. Prices and wages soared and the uncertainty of both prices and the supply of goods made merchandising and business generally a gamble. Buildings were rushed up and large stocks of goods were arriving or being ordered in the East. Money was scarce and consisted largely of a heterogeneous supply of foreign coins, gold dust, passing at first much below its value, being the principal medium of exchange. The gold product of 1849 was about $25,000,000.

The quickly developed supply of gold from the wonderful placers found along every stream bed on the Sierra slope promptly found a natural destination at San Francisco, the commercial emporium and sole shipping point for the entire new gold region, quickly to be supplemented by interior secondary business centers at Sacramento, Marysville, and Stockton, junctions

of river and land routes between the port and the gold fields. The merchandise establishments of these centers, and then of the mining camps that sprang up in the mountains, which promptly supplied the wants of the increasing thousands that crowded in during 1848 and 1849, were at first the natural and only means, aside from individual barter, through which the winners of gold dust and nuggets could exchange their treasure for goods they desired. As naturally, they became also the first depositaries of surplus gold which the miners possessed.

The real beginning of banking need not be assumed found with the identification of the first establishment which put up the sign "Bank." It is the function which is to be kept in mind. The bartering of gold dust for boots and shovels was no more banking than a similar exchange of hides and goods. Neither was a store doing a banking business when it received a bag of gold dust for safe keeping, with or without a charge for the service. In modern terms, that was doing a safe deposit business. The banking function of deposit and discount was an initial need in the very nature of things, and its advent was coincident with the acceptance by a store of a deposit of gold dust upon which a credit was created on which the depositor might draw an order. Such operations became common without any conception of "banking" entering one's mind.

The outright purchase of gold dust by storekeepers was from the first a part of the business of mercantile establishments, and at the low prices per ounce at which gold dust was first accepted it was very profitable. By 1849 merchants from the East had established quite extensive wholesale and retail stocks, and those with banking and business connections in Eastern cities were in a position to purchase gold with drafts on Eastern banks, and also to sell Eastern exchange. As practically all of the first gold seekers from the East were here simply to acquire quick fortunes with which to return home, this service was much availed of. The possession of stocks of gold dust enabled merchants so inclined to make temporary loans in the shape of credit, or otherwise, to customers they knew who needed a little financing of their operations, and to some unmeasured extent this banking function was merged in the speculative enterprises of business men who sought wealth along their accustomed lines, rather than in the mines.

Conditions calling for the services of the banker, he early responded to the call and opportunity. Men of banking experience, some from service with distinguished banking houses, or actually representing them, were among the early Argonauts of 1848 and 1849, and a few such men naturally gravitated to the large opportunities presented by the inchoate business boom for the dealing in gold, the selling of exchange, the receipt of gold deposits, the granting of loans at 10 or 12 per cent per month, and the varied financial operations for which conditions gave room. Others without banking experience were drawn to the field. To these men was due the initial differentiating of finance from merchandising within the first twelve months after the gold discovery and they were the pioneer bankers, professionally speaking.

In the latter part of 1848 Wright & Company established the Miners' Bank according to some records, and according to another Robert A. Parker was doing a banking business in that year, but no reliable details of these banking houses and their operations survive. Before the year was over the banking house of Naglee & Sinton was organized, beginning business early in January, 1849. During the latter year six banking firms began business in San Francisco, as is recited in detail in a subsequent chapter.

These first financial houses of 1848 and 1849 were, of course, private firms with no more regulation than any private business of the time. They were business adventures in a field ruled by the spirit of adventure, and success or failure depended both on sagacity and luck. These early pioneer banking houses, together with the many established during the next few years, may not be characterized by any generalization. The record of them given elsewhere contains names of men and firms of the highest ability and character, who played a great and indispensable part in the early development of the city and state, and whose names are honorably and indissolubly linked with the pioneer history of California. But by 1857 twenty out of forty-two private banks which had been established in San Francisco had failed amid the vicissitudes of that period, and the losses were disastrous to the community.

But very few banking firms were estab-

lished in the state during the decade of the '50s outside of San Francisco, which was from the start the one great business and financial center. The story of these early banking houses of San Francisco is given elsewhere as far as records permit. The only details of the operations of any of them that survive are those recorded in published accounts of some of the early failures, but millions were involved in their current transactions.

Sacramento saw the first beginnings of banking in the state outside of San Francisco. It is interesting to note that D. O. Mills, for two generations such a distinguished and successful figure in California and American finance, was one of the first, as well as one of the best, of the successful bankers of the state. Next to San Francisco Sacramento was the most important business center of the state, springing into sudden life and mushroom growth by Fort Sutter with the first gold rush. During 1849 D. O. Mills arrived and established a merchandise business here, dealing also in gold dust in the manner of the time. Being a banker with experience as an officer of a bank at Buffalo, N. Y., it was natural that he should seize the opportunity to go definitely into the banking business, which he did in 1850 by establishing the private bank of D. O. Mills & Co., which, after nationalization, has had a continuously successful career for nearly half a century as the National Bank of D. O. Mills & Co.

During the early '50s banking service in the leading mining and business centers in and adjacent to the gold region was mainly afforded by the express companies, which established numerous agencies for the shipment or purchase of gold dust and the selling of exchange. Distinguished among the few interior bankers of the early '50s were Norman D. Rideout and F. F. Low. N. D. Rideout began a banking business about 1850 at Marysville, the location of which at the head of navigation on the Feather River made it a transfer and supply point second only to Sacramento. He early established other private banks in the Sacramento Valley and later one at Sacramento. Some of these later were incorporated and flourish today. In after years he was president of the London and San Francisco Bank and then of the Mercantile Trust Company of San Francisco. F. F. Low, in association with a brother, in 1855 founded a banking house at Marysville, where he established himself as a merchant in 1850. In later years he was a managing official of the Anglo-Californian Bank at San Francisco and during his career was Governor of the State, Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco, and Minister to China. The banking business of Low Brothers at Marysville was sold to Rideout, Smith & Co. in 1861.

During the decade of the '50s Decker, Jewett & Co. established a banking business at Marysville and in the same year James H. Goodman & Co. did likewise at Napa. Both have had uninterrupted careers of success, becoming incorporated institutions in later years. In 1860 the private banking house of W. & P. Nicholls was established at Dutch Flat and continued in business until 1912. A. Mierson began a banking business at Placerville in 1861. The firm later became Mierson & Jewell and was incorporated as the A. Mierson Banking Company in 1902. This outline practically covers the banking development of the interior before the war. This is an appropriate place to turn to the legal aspect of the banking history of the pioneer period, one of the vital features of the record.

THE LAW AND THE BANKER

The character and course of development of the banking business in California, as elsewhere, have been greatly influenced by the attitude of the state, expressed in its constitutions and statutes, as well as by other conditions. Laws that have been passed creating rights and limitations have been results of banking conditions and the attitude of public opinion. During the three generations since the establishment of an American civilization the state has progressed from an initial hostility to banking corporations and dependence on unrestricted private banks, through a period of indifferent endurance of unregulated incorporated banks, then a period of partial and inefficient regulation, followed, as the result of the panic of 1907, by a revolutionizing bank act, which was perhaps the most comprehensive and radical scheme of bank regulation formulated at that time by any state. With progressive elaboration this measure, reinforced by a newly enlightened sentiment among the bankers, has made the state banking system of California second to none in the Union in soundness, growing prosperity, and public confidence. It

ON THE WATER FRONT AT STOCKTON IN 1849

INTERIOR FIRST NATIONAL BANK, SANTA BARBARA, SHOWING THE STYLE OF A PAST GENERATION

can be seen that in its legal policies with banking California has at all times but reflected the average attitude of other growing American states, and has, in fact, substantially kept pace with those who have first led the way in the regulation of commercial banking, being among the first to institute legal control and examination of commercial banks, and being one of the earliest to adopt a bank act of the type becoming prevalent in recent years. The changing attitude of public opinion throughout the country regarding the regulation of corporations in general has been a fundamental influence in the course of California's banking legislation, as have the gradual emergence of new principles of bank regulation, the examples of the National Bank Act, and of the laws of other states which were pioneers in this direction.

The first constitution, created in 1849, and under which the state was admitted to the Union in September, 1850, very clearly and effectively prohibited banks of issue and the chartering of banks by special acts, but appears to have been taken, at the time, to intend to also prevent corporations from being empowered to exercise the functions of commercial banking. Debates of the constitutional convention at Monterey show a prevailing strong antipathy to banking corporations, naturally felt by men recently arrived from older states where banks of issue had created such widespread trouble and disaster. When the sections of the constitution dealing with banking were under discussion there were strong differences of opinion as to the right policy for the state to pursue, in some respects, though there was entire unanimity as to the ban on banks of issue. Some of the strongest men in the convention, notably Doctor W. N. Gwin, afterward United States Senator, displayed an uncompromising hostility to corporate banking in any form. The need and inevitable existence of banks were recognized, but it was held that commercial banking service should be rendered by individuals and private firms. It was said by the most vigorous opponents of banking corporations that individuals could be held to legal responsibility under general civil and penal laws governing business trusts and dealings, while corporate monsters could not. The proceedings of the first constitutional convention in this respect are treated at greater length on page 82. It is evident, however, that the main purpose in the minds of the framers of the first constitution was to save the new state from the curse of banks of issue. At that period nearly all banks throughout the country had been chartered by special legislative acts, the plan of free banking under general incorporation laws having but a limited vogue, and possibly the prohibition of special bank charters put into the constitution was conceived as sufficiently effective in preventing the formation of moneyed corporations. Similar ostracism of banking corporations had been, and afterward was, effected in the constitutions of other newer states, and in some of them, as in California, the question later arose as to whether the inhibition was effective against the passage of general laws providing for the incorporation of banks. The result of the discussion at the constitutional convention was the adoption of the following sections of Article IV:

"Sec. 34. The Legislature shall have no power to pass any act granting any charter for banking purposes; but associations may be formed, under general laws for the deposit of gold and silver, but no such association shall make, issue, or put in circulation any bill, check, ticket, or promissory note, or other paper, or the paper of any bank, to circulate as money.

"Sec. 35. The Legislature of the state shall prohibit by law any person or persons, association, company, or corporation, from exercising the privileges of banking, or creating paper to circulate as money."

The constitutional warrant under which banking corporations appeared some years later was found in the provision, "Associations may be formed under general laws for the deposit of gold and silver," a provision strongly opposed through three or four days. Section 35 made it mandatory for the Legislature to prohibit by statute all "persons," as well as corporations, from exercising the "privileges of banking." As the members of the constitutional convention plainly contemplated that individuals and firms should continue to perform, for the benefit of the community, the functions of deposit, discount, loaning, exchange, etc., the construction necessarily follows that by "privileges of banking" the issue of bank notes was in mind.

However, that was evidently not the understanding of the first Legislature. The

first act governing business corporations, approved April 22, 1850, before the admission to the Union by Congress, carried the following section, which may be taken as evidence of the mind and attitude of the majority of both Houses of the Legislature:

"No corporation, created or to be created, shall by any implication be deemed to possess the power of discounting bills, notes, or other evidences of debt, of receiving deposits, of buying gold and silver, bullion, or foreign coin; of buying and selling bills of exchange or issuing bills, notes, or other evidences of debt, upon loans, or for circulation as money."

That was the legal equipment regarding banking with which the new state began its career. The legislative act just quoted remained in complete effect until 1862, when the first act was passed legalizing savings banks, some of which had already been formed under the general corporation law. That act provided that corporations so formed should be exempt from the act of 1850. When, two years later, the functions of commercial banking were permitted to such savings banks having a capital of $300,000, the exemption was repeated. At about this time, and prior to 1864, the section of the act of 1850 referred to, while not definitely repealed, became ineffective through conflicting legislation and was thereafter regarded as obsolete. The result was that in 1864 corporations formed under the general business corporation law for the carrying on of commercial banking began to appear and a new period in the development of banking in California began.

This act of the first Legislature, retained beyond the decade of the '50s, is an interesting evidence of the legal attitude of the state toward banking during this period, it clearly forbidding all privileges of discount and deposit to corporations. In 1855 the Supreme Court, in a case involving certain "notes or orders" issued by a mining company, commented on this section as follows: "The clear object of the restriction is to prevent corporations, by any device, from carrying on the business of banking; in other words, to prevent the formation of moneyed corporations. They were prohibited from issuing bills or notes 'upon loans,' or for circulation as money; that is, they should not lend their credit." (Magee & Beals v. Mokelumne Hill Canal and Mining Company, 5 California, 258.)

Sections 34 and 35 of Article IV of the first constitution did not happen to come before the Supreme Court for interpretation for many years; in fact, but once during the life of the first constitution, and once long after the adoption of the new constitution. The first decision was rendered in 1877, thirteen years after corporate commercial banking began and twenty-seven years after the constitution went into effect. The Bank of Sonoma County, of Petaluma, incorporated in 1866 under the savings bank law, engaged in litigation with the trustees of Petaluma over a local bond issue, and the legal competency of the bank was attacked under authority of these sections. This was not the main issue and the court disposed of the incidental point briefly as follows: "Under Article IV, section 34 of the constitution of the state, deposit and loan associations may be formed which do not issue paper to circulate as money; and such are not banks within the prohibition of the constitution, although they may be called banks." (Bank of Sonoma County v. Fairbanks et al., 52 California, 196.)

The court made no reference to other decisions, but it may be remarked that similar constitutional provisions had been similarly construed in other states. The Bank of Sonoma County derived its powers from the law of 1862 governing the incorporation of "deposit and loan associations," but the case occasioning the second construction by the Supreme Court of these sections involved a commercial bank, organized under the general law governing corporations, "to engage in and carry on the business of banking to such an extent, and in such branches as may legally be done under the constitution and laws of the State of California." This second decision was not rendered until 1895, fifteen years after the adoption of the new constitution, but the bank involved was incorporated under the old constitution, and sections 34 and 35 were invoked in an attack upon the legal power of the bank. These sections were discussed at some length in the decision, which is interesting, not only for its construction of these sections, but also for the conception of conditions attending the forming of the new state expressed by the court while harking back to those early days.

The Bank of Martinez, organized in 1873 under the general corporation law, had foreclosed a mortgage and the mortgagor had pleaded that the mortgage was invalid, because ultra vires in that a commercial bank was not given power to loan on mortgages, and illegal under sections 34 and 35 of the constitution in force when the bank was created. The Supreme Court found that in California a commercial bank was not forbidden to loan on real estate. As to the second contention, the court declared the point settled by the decision in Bank of Sonoma County v. Fairbanks, and said: "That decision was made while the constitution of 1849 was in force and rights have grown up under it. Even if it did not meet our approval we should not now feel at liberty to disturb that conclusion. But we think that conclusion correct. The provisions of the constitution of 1849 must be viewed in the light of 1849."

It was said that the framers of that constitution had a vivid realization of the evils of bank bills issued by private corporations, practically the only kind of money they had known, and had experienced the utter prostration of business resulting from the panic of 1837. Continuing, the court said:

"The people of California were elated by the possession of rich gold placers and probably believed that no other currency than gold and silver would be required. The reiteration of the idea shows that they desired above all things to prohibit the circulation of bank bills. This is what they meant by 'banking,' for while prohibiting it they authorized the formation of associations for the deposit of gold and silver, which, however, shall not put in circulation paper 'of any bank' to circulate as money. Section 35 is but the counterpart of section 34, and requires the Legislature to prohibit to any person or persons, as well as to corporations, the privileges of banking, which by the preceding section were denied to corporations. The two sections must be taken together, and it can not be supposed that the convention intended to nullify the express exceptions made in the same provision. The Legislature of 1849-50 prohibited corporations from performing even these acts, but not private persons. Besides, if the phrase 'privileges of banking' includes all functions of banking, it would prohibit any person in the state from drawing a bill of exchange, giving a promissory note, or even collecting a debt, for those, and many other transactions essential to civilization as society is now constituted, are and have for centuries been the usual functions of banks." (Bank of Martinez v. Hemme Orchard and Land Company, 105 California, 376.)

This review of the constitutional and legislative enactments governing banking for over a decade shows that the state started on its career with a constitutional prohibition of the issue of paper money in any form, a constitutional prohibition of special charters to banks, which was then and long afterward the method of creating banks in many states, and with a legislative prohibition of banking functions of any sort to corporations. Hostility to moneyed corporations and "monopolies" was never stronger in later years. We see why commercial banking service was restricted to private banks until about the close of the Civil War.

The years 1862 and 1864 brought the first constructive bank legislation in the form of two measures of outstanding historical importance. One, which is noted in more detail elsewhere, was the act definitely legalizing and strengthening "corporations for the accumulation and investment of funds and savings," and was passed as a result of the experience and efforts of a few San Francisco savings and loan societies which had been organized under the general corporation laws. These institutions had been started through the example of similar ones in the East and were not conceived of as "banks" in either the legal or general acceptation of the term. They were, in their nature, more nearly related to the building and loan societies which were also early started in San Francisco.

The other measure was an amendment to this act, passed two years later, providing that such corporations having a paid-in capital, or capital and reserve fund, of $300,000 might accept ordinary deposits without interest and deal in certain classes of securities, including "evidences of debt, public and private." The powers given were broad enough to include commercial paper, and thus the privilege of commercial banking was conferred on corporations organized under the act of 1862, and having the required capital. The law of 1862 had specifically provided that corporations formed under it should not be subject to the act of April 22, 1850.

Here was the birth of corporate commer-

PALACE HOTEL, SAN FRANCISCO, IN THE EARLY DAYS OF ITS CAREER

MONTGOMERY STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, BEFORE THE FIRE OF 1854. AT THE CORNER FACING THE FOREGROUND IS THE BANKING HOUSE OF BURGOYNE & CO.

cial banking in the state from a legal standpoint, and the first incorporated institution with commercial banking powers soon followed. The Pacific Accumulation Loan Company was incorporated, under the savings bank act, in 1863, at San Francisco, by Sam Brannan and associates, soon after being reorganized with a large capital and under the presidency of Peter H. Burnett, the state's first Governor. It was due to the efforts of those controlling this institution that the amendment of 1864 was passed. Having the requisite capital, the Pacific Accumulation Loan Company at once proceeded to exercise its enlarged powers, and as its name was not suggestive of commercial banking, it secured the passage of a special act of the Legislature in 1866 changing its name to Pacific Bank, which is to be remembered as the first incorporated commercial bank of the state, although it was formed under the savings bank law of that time. In later years it did a commercial business exclusively and pursued a successful career until its failure in 1893. For many years it was controlled by Doctor R. H. McDonald, its president, assisted by his sons, R. H. McDonald, Jr., and Frank V. McDonald.

The year 1864 is also memorable in the state's banking history from a legal standpoint because that year saw the incorporation of the first bank under the general corporation law. From that time forward banks were incorporated under both the savings bank act and the general law governing business corporations, both forms of institutions being destined to assume the functions of both savings and commercial banking and loaning on real estate, according to their individual interests, though classed as either savings or commercial banks according to their form of organization. No clear and definite exposition of just how the legal status of incorporated commercial banks came to be established, in view of the prohibitory measure of 1850, which was never repealed in terms, has ever been attempted, and efforts to trace the legal change in the old statutes, digests, and decisions have been unavailing. It can simply be said here that the entry of these institutions came about through some of the successive amendments to the general corporation law creating a conflict with the section of the corporation law of 1850 in question, which nullified its effect. When the statutes were codified nearly twenty years later the Code Commission designated the section noted as "obsolete."

It was in this legal situation that the Bank of California was incorporated under the general law governing business corporations in July, 1864. This famous institution, which has cut so large a figure in the financial history of the state, appears entitled to the distinction of being California's first commercial bank incorporated as such. The law made no express provision for banking corporations other than savings banks, and its articles of incorporation empowered it "to carry on and engage in the business of banking to such an extent and in such branches as may legally be done under the constitution and laws of the State of California." This was about the specification of powers expressed in the incorporation of other commercial banks that followed slowly during the next few years.

Nothing else of importance to banks from the standpoint of law is encountered until the middle of the next decade, when bank failures and the increase of incorporated banks prompted an agitation for publicity of the condition of banks, and the result was the act of 1876 requiring the publication in newspapers of semi-annual statements of specified essential items of resources and liabilities. A number of older states of the East had required reports from banks previous to the passage of the National Bank Act in 1863, the issue of bank notes being the basis of the requirement, but between that time and 1876 only two states, Kentucky and Maryland, had passed post-bellum laws to this effect, and in these states banks of issue had previously been under similar requirements. California was thus a pioneer in requiring reports from banks in the interest of the safety of the general depositor rather than the note-holder. Some of the savings banks had been in the habit of publishing statements, but not the commercial and private banks, and many resented the strange interference with their business. The law applied to private banks also, but these ignored it almost entirely. The reports were simply to be published and not sent to any official, and no penalty for failure to report was fixed. The results were not important, but in 1878 came the first bank act, which established a new order and marked a great advance along the path of bank regulation, as inadequate as the new system came to appear in later years.

It is when seen in the setting of the whole

bank legislation of the country that the way of California with its banks appears most understandable and interesting. For a good many years after the passage of the National Bank Act and the disappearance of State bank notes, but slight attention was paid to legislation regarding commercial banking in any of the states. The ante-bellum legislation of the older states had been framed in relation to banks of issue. The protection of holders of bank notes had always been the governing consideration in the conditions and requirements included in the chartering of banks, and in requirements of reports of condition and the provision of any machinery for the examination of banks that might have been created. Regulation with the protection of the depositor in mind was incidental. In the newer states of the West there was little or no bank regulation.

One reason of this was the small number of State banks for a considerable period, the great majority of established banks having joined the National system. In 1860 there were over 1500 State banks of deposit and discount in the country and in 1868 but 250. The increase of incorporated State banks began about 1870, and as they developed in number and power through succeeding years attention began to turn to the need of measures which would promote their stability and safety. Their development, however, was very slow. In some of the older states the practice of incorporating banks by special legislative acts was long continued, as were the ante-bellum laws framed for the regulation of banks of issue. In the newer states there was much diversity of legal method, but in a majority banks were formed under general laws governing business corporations.

In 1878 in only four New England states and in Indiana and Iowa were State banks subject to regular examination. In New York and New Jersey provision was made for official examinations under special circumstances. Otherwise only National banks were anywhere subject to official inspection and, except for the varying supervision of banks of issue before the war, the principle was strange to the State bank system. This situation much enhances interest in the California law of 1878, creating a board of bank commissioners and providing for regular reports of condition and what was then a considerable degree of regulatory power, which was mainly advisory in its ultimate results. Private banks were not amenable to the law, but incorporated banks were required to secure from the commissioners an annual license, pay the expenses of the commission by pro rata assessment, make regular reports, and submit to examinations by the commissioners. The latter were empowered to order the discontinuance of illegal or unsafe practices discovered, and in default of compliance to report the facts to the Attorney-General, who was given discretion to institute the proper legal proceedings in a court. The law provided for three commissioners at a salary of $3000 each and traveling expenses of $1500 per year, with one clerk at $1800. All examinations were to be made by the commissioners personally.

It is historically important to emphasize the advanced position in bank regulation which California thus assumed in 1878. All states then providing bank supervision had been originally moved to it because of banks of issue, and but two states had required regular bank examinations under post-bellum conditions. The official supervising machinery created in California was also rather elaborate for that period. In the same year Minnesota required bank examinations. Ten years later no further states had required examinations or instituted any form of bank supervision, and it was to be from twenty to thirty years before the other Pacific states were to fall in line.

This law of 1878 was one of the results of the historic reform agitation of that time which culminated in the adoption of the then radical new constitution of 1879. The so-called sand-lot movement of that period, of which the Kearney riots and the anti-Chinese agitation were memorable features, was not responsible for bank supervision. This element was an important political influence, but it has been assigned a larger figure than was warranted. The proposed bank measure was, in fact, opposed by this element, on the theory that it was intended to create political jobs for men who would favor the banks. Neither was the law asked for by the bankers, as a class, nor welcomed by many of them. The law was secured by the saner element of the reform movement and was not inspired by hostility to banking corporations as such. From the beginning the bank commission justified its existence to the public and to bankers who were guided by conservative principles and a fairly adequate conception of their responsibilities.

Immediately on its organization, in 1878,

it set itself to the examination of some important San Francisco savings banks, to the conditions in which current rumors invited attention, and very soon the Masonic Savings Bank, victim of a great fraud in navy paymasters' vouchers, was in the hands of a receiver. During succeeding months the Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank, with deposits of $1,500,000, and the French Mutual Provident Loan and Savings Society, with deposits of $5,500,000, followed suit, as a result of examination into their real condition. These results, together with the implications involved in the investigating power, the attendant publicity, and the advice of the commissioners, resulted in a bestowal of a good deal of public approval, the active or passive approval of the better class of bankers, and the closing or rehabilitation of a number of savings banks in the state.

The Bank Commissioners continued to supervise California State incorporated banks until the panic of 1907 brought the revolutionizing bank act of 1909, a period of about thirty years. The comparatively brief bank act of 1878 received a few amendments at different times, none of which made any important changes in the plan of supervision, the few requirements imposed on banks, or the powers of the supervising authority. In 1887 the most important of several amendments finally forced the private banks into rendering semi-annual reports of condition, but it extended the jurisdiction of the Bank Commissioners over them no farther. Statistics of private banks exist only between this time and the elimination of these institutions in 1909. In 1903 the existing bank act was repealed and a new one was passed not differing essentially from the former one except that it provided for four commissioners instead of three. There was an interregnum of a few weeks between the expiration of the old act and the coming into effect of the new one, and this condition was seized upon by quite a number of people, many of whom were promoters and politicians, to incorporate new banks to the number of about sixty, on the theory that the institutions would be free from any limitations and conditions prescribed by a law subsequently operative. Many were organized for the speculative value of the charter. Some became well established, legitimate institutions, and some existed for a time with nominal capital and business and were absorbed or expired without confirming the hopes of their founders. In 1905 private banks were brought within the full jurisdiction of the Bank Commissioners as to examination and supervision. An amendment to the bank act in 1905 also provided for graded requirements of bank capital, according to population. This was declared unconstitutional in a lower court and was repealed in 1907. Later an amendment to the constitution permitted such a regulation by the Legislature and under it the present requirements were established in the existing bank act.

During the period from 1878 to 1909 the California Bank Commission proved a correcting, steadying, and helpful influence in the State banking system in many ways. The commissioners had little final and efficient independent authority to which bankers had to bow. A domineering or prejudiced attitude was never assumed; their spirit was characteristically a helpful one, and as a rule the successive commissioners strove to better the condition of the banks by suggestion and recommendation when matters seeming to need correction came to their attention. Now and then one or more commissioners would prove conscientious and intelligent students of the best banking principles and methods and strive, with more or less enterprise, to remedy or improve certain banking conditions and practices by direct appeal or recommendations for new legislation. Their recommendations were rarely heeded by the Legislature. They were political appointees, but all were honorable men and now and then one was a competent and experienced banker. They lacked independent power and the backing of definite legal requirements from banks, and they also naturally shared a general attitude of mind which had not yet projected governmental principles and power of regulation very far into the concerns of corporate or private business in its relation to the public. But all at once there fell the panic of 1907, and towering high among the financial troubles it brought was the failure of the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company of San Francisco. It owed depositors more than $9,000,000 and it was soon revealed that the disastrous failure was due to reckless and criminal use of the deposits in backing a variety of hazardous outside enterprises controlled by the officers, all of which proved failures, leaving the bank with a great mass of practically worthless stocks and bonds. This, supplemented by some

SAMUEL BRANNAN

Two Historic Figures
of the
Early Fifties
in
San Francisco

DAVID C. BRODERICK

other bank failures, plainly showed the utter inadequacy of a system of bank supervision under which such conditions could exist. The established system, which was an advanced one in its early years, had been outgrown. The modern conception of bank regulation had recently emerged into recognition through discussion and by establishment in two or three Eastern states, and it had won the sympathetic approval of many of the leading and influential bankers of the state. There was a natural popular demand for better bank regulation and the demand was impressed on the Legislature and voiced by it. It was also not only recognized but shared by a majority of California bankers. Almost as soon as a special joint committee of the Legislature was created to report on needed new banking laws the California Bankers' Association created a special committee for the same purpose, and the ultimate outcome of the joint work of these committees was the radical new bank act which went into effect July 1, 1909, and which was mainly the creation of California bankers themselves. This is recent history which need not at this place be pursued into the present period. A new and splendid era was ushered in, and the old Bank Commission, and much of the status and ways of the banking business in a long and fine evolutionary period was relegated to an historical past with a quite vivid contrast exhibited on either side of the panic period of 1907. And by the adoption of the new system California was again placed with the early pioneers among the states in the establishment of a new kind of bank supervision.

ESTABLISHMENT OF CLEARING HOUSES

THE TRANSITION period of the seventies and eighties saw the beginning of organized co-operative effort among California bankers and the slow awakening of a consciousness of common interests and of a fraternal and professional spirit which were to work a splendid transformation in the character of the banking system in later years. During the first forty years co-operation among bankers toward any common end was practically unknown.

Probably the San Francisco Clearing House Association is entitled to the distinction of being the first bankers' organization of the state. The New York clearing house had been established in the fifties and the bankers of other important cities had followed the example during the next few years, but the plan was proposed in San Francisco some time before enough of the local bankers could get together to establish such an institution. The spirit of more or less jealous competition controlled the relations of bankers so fully that there was little room for unity of feeling and team work in a common cause. The condition of each bank was the private business of its managers. Except on the part of the two young National gold banks, public statements of condition were unknown. There was a disposition to avoid going into an organization through which details of one bank's business might become known to others. There was also something of jealousy among the different classes of banks—State, National, foreign, and private. It was the strong common need created by the bank troubles of the period around 1875 that finally brought fifteen of the commercial banks together in the San Francisco Clearing House Association in 1876, five more coming in a few months later. The association was a strong influence in developing the mutual trust and co-operation among local bankers which came to rule in later years and which was signally exhibited during the historic and disastrous times of the San Francisco fire of 1906 and the panic which broke at the end of 1907. At the time of the fire daily meetings of the association were held in the unburned residence district and common policies were adopted and followed in respect to the tremendous problems and difficulties encountered. When the panic came the situation was promptly and firmly grasped and among the measures taken was the issue of several million dollars in clearing house certificates for general circulation, of which about $13,000,000 was authorized.

A distinguishing feature of the career of the San Francisco clearing house has been the fact that it was the second city in the country to adopt the system of clearing house examinations, instituted in 1908, the plan being adopted a short time before by the Chicago organization. This step sets in high relief the change in spirit which had come over the banking business of San Francisco during the thirty years since the clearing house association was organized. It was the initial concrete exhibit of the determination of the majority of the bankers of California to enforce on all banks, in the interest of both the public and the banking business,

the higher standards that had won general sanction and to eliminate weak spots and unsound practices from the State banking system.

The second clearing house was organized at Los Angeles in 1887, and its career has been a very notable success. The outstanding feature has been the institution of clearing house examinations immediately after the 1907 panic and at about the time this step was taken by the San Francisco association. Later the banks of a number of flourishing towns and cities in the general vicinity of Los Angeles came under this examination system.

Previous to the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906 the banks of Oakland had cleared through the San Francisco institution across the bay, but the conditions then created prompted the organization of the Oakland clearing house, the third in the state. In the same year the San Jose clearing house was organized. In 1907 clearing houses were organized at Sacramento, Stockton, and Fresno. Since then similar action has been taken by the banks of Pasadena, San Diego, Santa Rosa, Bakersfield, and Long Beach, giving the state twelve institutions in 1916.

GOLD AND GREENBACKS

California's refusal of greenbacks and its adherence to gold as the medium of exchange, standard of values, and basis for the payments of money due under contracts has been one of the most distinguishing features of its financial history. The strong prejudice against State bank notes which the first pioneers brought with them from the Eastern states and which led the first constitutional convention to prohibit their issuance here was naturally visited on the notes issued by the United States treasury after the outbreak of the Civil War. While large amounts of the new paper currency reached San Francisco through federal disbursements and otherwise, and were currently exchanged among those who would receive them and used by merchants and others in meeting cash payments due in the East, loyalty to gold and silver was general and enduring. Being legal tender for all debts, acceptance of the depreciated currency could be enforced, and this often worked hardship and injustice under the conditions, but the business world generally rejected it to the extent possible and clung to gold and silver as the medium of exchange and the standard of payments.

The situation naturally created much discussion and many patriotic people felt and declared that to reject the greenbacks constituted disloyalty to the Union and a failure to properly co-operate in carrying on the war. While the Southern element in the population was strong and while there was a marked division of political sentiment on the great issue of the time among Northern men before the war, when the conflict broke events proved California loyal to the Union by a great and completely controlling majority. The prevailing attitude toward the new currency was not a matter of patriotism but an adherence to a deep set usage and a sentiment born of and nourished by the great gold mining industry which was the foundation of the state's existence and the chief sustenance of its growth and prosperity. The hard money policy was strongly upheld by public opinion and efforts to pay debts in a depreciated currency of changing value brought strong condemnation. A noteworthy exhibition of this attitude occurred in 1862, when the State Treasurer saved about $25,000 in making in greenbacks some large payments of the direct state tax levied by the government. It was entirely satisfactory at Washington, but the Legislature appropriated the amount in further support of the raising of state forces for war service.

The result of the sentiment described was the so-called specific contract law passed by the Legislature by large majorities early in 1863, and which merely crystallized into law an established principle. It was not a separate and distinct enactment, but consisted of amendments to the laws governing civil procedure, providing for the legal enforcement of contracts specifying payments in a particular kind of money. The law was contested, but its constitutionality was upheld by the State Supreme Court in 1864 and later by the United States Supreme Court. It quickly became the universal practice in drawing notes and contracts to specify payment "in gold coin of the United States," and the practice has continued ever since. Secretary of the Treasury Chase declared the law to be against public policy and various efforts to repeal it were made but they failed. Similar laws were passed in Oregon and Nevada.

That this loyalty to gold had its roots in something deeper than practical business policy was partly demonstrated by the avoidance of paper money by Californians for more than a generation after the resumption of specie payments placed greenbacks on a par with gold. But little paper money was seen in circulation until very recent years, and not only was this true but the custom of paying bills in gold rather than by bank check persisted with great tenacity, and the sight of collectors with sacks of gold coin in hand or over shoulder was a familiar one in the business district of San Francisco but yesterday. In retail stores paper money was generally regarded with suspicion and bills accumulating in banks met with natural and convenient disposal through shipment to Eastern correspondents or deposit in the sub-treasury. The flood of emergency currency occasioned by the outbreak of the European war, and then the issue of Federal Reserve notes, finally placed paper money in the tolerance and habit of the public to a large degree.

One condition that favored the use of gold as money was, of course, the fact that there was an abundance for the purpose, whereas in the East the supply was very limited. The reason for the latter fact was that while several hundred million dollars of gold had been produced up to the time of the war, and practically all sent East, it had been drawn to Europe about as rapidly by the demand of a large and constant adverse balance of trade. During the war period the bulk of the gold available for circulation in the United States, which had been estimated at about $25,000,000, existed in California, and though the product of the mines was diminished the supply required as money was easily maintained. Great pride was taken in the maintenance of specie payments, and this pride has been reflected by practically every California writer dealing with the subject ever since.

There was and has since been some questioning of the net value to the state of the policy pursued. The profits of merchants were greatly increased by buying in the East with greenbacks and selling here for gold, since prices remained nominally nearly on a par with the East, and these profits, in one way, promoted prosperity, while in other ways the maintenance of business on a gold basis served to strengthen the business situation. But the disparity between the values in commodities and property of the two kinds of money, with the price situation as it was, presented difficulties and drawbacks. People who paid and received payment on the same gold basis were all right, but greenbacks received in government payments by federal employees and others were receivable only at their current value in gold and there were periods when the discount was very heavy. The condition was unfavorable to manufacturing development and was also unfavorable to immigration from the East, to which attention turned with the steady falling off of placer gold production and recognition of the need of developing the agricultural resources of the state. A man coming with his financial resources in greenbacks would find those resources diminished in the land of gold.

From 1862 to about 1879 greenbacks were a subject of speculation in California, and mainly in San Francisco. While New York speculated in gold, San Francisco speculated in greenbacks. Beginning soon after the organization of the San Francisco Stock and Exchange Board in September, 1862, trading in greenbacks on the basis of gold quotations was added to the dealings in mining stocks, and a limited amount of other securities, by the members of that institution, and it was kept up until resumption established the parity with gold. At times the volume of transactions was quite large. Similar transactions in greenbacks attended the operations of other stock boards organized in the '60s. Individuals bought large amounts of the notes, particularly at the very low quotations to which they dropped toward the close of the war, and put them away in strong boxes in bank vaults on the faith that the future would see them rise. Such investors were naturally men of strong confidence in the success of the North in the great struggle, and patriotic feeling may often have been an important influence in these transactions, but to men of speculative natures there was a strong lure in the profits in prospect when greenbacks were purchasable in gold at such heavy discounts as existed in 1863 and 1864, even with interest rates at 12 per cent or more. At one time greenbacks were quoted at 35 cents on the dollar in gold.

TABLE SHOWING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE BANKING SYSTEM FROM 1878

(Amounts in thousands of dollars)

Year	All State Banks (Private Excluded) — No. Banks and Branches	Capital, Surplus and Profits	Total Resources	All Savings Banks — No. Banks	Individual Deposits	Total Resources	San Francisco Savings Banks — No. Banks	Individual Deposits
1878	84	$ 46,231	$151,932	28	$ 71,469	$ 80,249	..	.....
1879	83	45,921	126,155	23	53,227	60,169	9	$ 43,066
1880	78	35,836	119,576	20	47,720	54,102	9	41,395
1881	76	35,317	128,088	17	51,967	57,783	8	44,078
1882	78	35,578	130,344	17	53,209	59,383	8	46,370
1883	84	40,136	140,044	17	56,507	62,503	8	49,738
1884	92	46,493	149,875	18	59,465	65,740	8	51,897
1885	94	43,697	141,458	21	58,944	65,873	8	53,487
1886	96	47,569	154,120	22	62,822	69,985	8	55,483
1887	112	49,412	178,949	24	70,078	77,585	8	60,726
1888	133	59,693	192,241	23	77,719	85,727	9	66,279
1889	150	60,966	204,630	28	87,102	96,033	9	73,959
1890	168	63,315	220,484	37	98,442	109,092	9	86,235
1891	189	70,268	244,547	45	114,165	126,218	10	93,578
1892	215	76,078	266,742	54	120,783	141,052	10	102,248
1893	233	79,578	275,874	59	135,020	153,128	11	108,610
1894	231	74,712	264,733	60	125,421	141,279	11	100,833
1895	230	76,451	275,505	66	126,831	144,991	10	101,505
1896	231	72,871	270,234	57	131,654	147,813	10	104,589
1897	229	67,754	214,381	56	127,929	143,451	10	100,821
1898	231	62,829	277,478	55	136,119	152,124	9	106,333
1899	229	59,450	297,427	53	145,943	161,319	9	113,294
1900	231	62,195	320,368	55	158,167	173,872	9	120,481
1901	236	69,060	351,195	56	170,758	186,817	9	127,938
1902	252	74,737	422,247	61	187,738	204,851	9	138,193
1903	278	83,793	443,581	68	212,868	232,868	9	151,421
1904	332	90,248	468,226	87	224,769	246,327	11	156,653
1905	385	86,029	510,944	110	250,914	272,208	12	163,180
1906	425	96,600	611,115	123	273,707	305,798	11	162,321
1907	480	106,027	630,285	132	278,999	311,689	12	154,072
1908	490	102,326	535,171	134	246,103	277,815	12	137,099
1909*	486	105,056	574,877	...	.....	.....	..	.....
1910	477	92,678	554,283	...	331,616	372,916	..	159,866
1911	502	96,688	608,858	...	355,251	407,676	..	164,939
1912	523	101,750	666,999	...	400,765	455,757	..	174,032
1913	548	105,726	705,871	...	430,504	491,719	..	186,233
1914	550	101,187	745,222	...	449,222	506,519	..	199,617
1915	563	108,024	763,685	...	458,708	522,761	..	205,858

*Under the new bank act, in effect July 1, 1909, the statistical record of the savings bank business of State institutions was greatly changed. Before that date savings banks incorporated as such did a large amount of commercial business, while savings, or time, accounts were extensively carried by commercial banks. The statistical records of the old Bank Commission segregated the aggregate business of the savings and commercial banks without reference to the nature of the accounts. With the establishment of departmental banking, savings and commercial deposits, etc., were completely separated in all institutions for the first time. The increase of nearly $95,000,000 in savings deposits from 1908 to 1910, as shown in the table, consisted largely of savings accounts in commercial banks transferred to newly organized savings departments, and it indicates that the volume of savings deposits in previous years was larger than the record shows. The State bank record given in the first three columns includes the savings bank statistics presented separately in the rest of the table.

RESOURCES OF THE BANKS OF CALIFORNIA BY CLASSES JULY 1, 1887

	Commercial — No.	Assets	Savings — No.	Assets	Private — No.	Assets	National — No.	Assets	All Banks — No.	Assets
San Francisco	12	$ 66,810,524	8	$64,904,622	3	$ 4,503,232	3	$ 8,150,235	26	$144,368,813
Rest of state	76	34,554,146	16	12,679,980	26	6,093,666	30	26,458,765	148	79,786,557
Totals	88	$101,364,670	24	$77,584,602	29	$10,596,898	33	$34,609,000	174	$224,155,370

COMBINED STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE INCORPORATED COMMERCIAL AND SAVINGS BANKS, THE PRIVATE BANKS, AND THE NATIONAL BANKS OF CALIFORNIA, JULY 1, 1887

	Savings 24 Banks July 1, '87	*Commercial 83 Banks July 1, '87*	*Foreign 5 Banks July 1, '87*	*Private 29 Banks July 1, '87*	*National 28 Banks July 1, '87*	*Total Excl. Nat. Banks 141 Banks July 1, '87*	*Total Incl. Nat. Banks 169 Banks July 1, '87*
RESOURCES—							
Bank premises	$ 931,989	$ 1,991,288	$ 89,912	$ 693,691	$ 468,641	$ 3,706,911	$ 4,175,553
Other real estate	2,172,887	1,031,928	75,072	.....	168,509	3,279,888	3,448,397
Invested in bonds and stocks	17,860,209	2,257,287	120,930	478,077	3,009,168	20,716,504	23,725,672
Loans on real estate	42,963,926	12,899,571	608,447	1,536,604	.....	58,008,550	58,008,550
Loans on bonds and stocks	8,536,016	5,477,753	2,552,690	206,104	1,034,952	16,772,566	17,807,518
Loans on other securities	35,046	7,609,878	2,355,311	314,780	815,528	10,315,016	11,130,545
Loans on personal security	1,000,815	25,897,009	8,756,975	4,684,088	14,367,635	40,338,887	54,706,523
Money on hand	1,994,883	10,826,160	4,753,138	1,548,508	4,421,831	19,122,690	23,544,521
Due from banks and bankers	1,609,286	8,866,685	1,468,806	813,903	4,310,113	12,758,681	17,068,794
Other assets	479,541	3,337,858	387,936	321,139	147,336	4,526,475	4,673,811
Totals	$77,584,602	$80,195,420	$21,169,250	$10,596,898	$28,743,717	$189,546,171	$218,289,889
LIABILITIES—							
Capital paid up	$ 4,216,377	$19,555,360	$11,506,575	$ 3,578,468	$ 6,200,000	$ 38,856,780	$ 45,056,780
Reserve fund, etc	2,731,089	11,248,126	151,160	400,577	1,611,837	14,533,953	16,145,791
Due depositors	70,077,893	44,149,188	8,364,782	6,118,496	18,001,082	128,710,361	146,711,444
Due banks and bankers	591	4,875,779	996,354	340,531	1,356,594	6,213,257	7,569,851
Other liabilities	558,651	366,965	147,376	158,824	1,574,203	1,231,818	2,806,021
Totals	$77,584,602	$80,195,420	$21,169,250	$10,596,898	$28,743,717	$189,546,171	$218,289,889

DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTIES OF CAPITAL AND DEPOSITS OF COMMERCIAL AND SAVINGS BANKS, 1885

[From report of State Bank Commissioners for 1885.]

COMMERCIAL BANKS

County	*No. of Banks*	*Paid-in Capital Jan. 1, 1885*	*Due Depositors Jan. 1, 1885*
San Francisco	6	$ 9,046,205	$17,296,172
Butte	2	350,000	303,023
Colusa	2	600,000	822,254
Contra Costa	1	100,000	154,625
Fresno	1	60,000	108,355
Humboldt	1	60,000	186,663
Kern	1	53,000	134,752
Lake	2	108,760	122,668
Los Angeles	8	516,500	1,994,838
Marin	1	100,000	41,574
Mendocino	2	280,000	158,142
Merced	1	43,275	82,628
Mono	1	20,000	21,561
Monterey	1	300,000	254,312
Napa	2	266,300	185,201
Nevada	1	30,000	107,676
Plumas	1	12,500	19,193
Sacramento	2	300,000	2,544,124
San Benito	1	227,000	241,411
San Bernardino	1	50,000	172,631
San Joaquin	1	158,580	163,645
Shasta	1	13,200	38,159
San Luis Obispo	1	100,000	308,777
Santa Clara	5	722,625	1,330,340
Santa Cruz	2	220,000	340,531
Siskiyou	1	60,000	173,227
Solano	4	399,100	461,929
Sonoma	8	1,121,160	1,339,448
Stanislaus	1	175,000	107,222
Tehama	1	300,000	292,370
Tulare	1	200,000	149,868
Ventura	1	90,000	75,473
Yolo	2	899,500	612,528
Yuba	1	38,375	62,910
Total 34 counties	68	$17,021,080	$30,408,247

SAVINGS BANKS

San Francisco	8	$ 1,650,855	$52,424,681
Alameda	2	675,000	3,510,044
Fresno	1	13,100	8,005
Los Angeles	1	25,000	96,150
Mendocino	1	.....	298,438
Merced	1	45,000	315,074
Sacramento	1	225,237	235,445
Santa Cruz	1	20,000	182,740
San Joaquin	2	800,000	1,954,686
Solano	1	67,238	117,363
Total 10 counties	19	$ 3,521,430	$59,142,630

NOTE—The National banks existing in 1885 numbered seventeen, with paid-in capital of $3,845,000 and deposits of $6,710,000. There were about thirty private banks in operation with resources in the neighborhood of $10,000,000. Three had resources of over $1,000,000. Those private banks were well scattered throughout the state and afforded a great addition to the comparatively limited banking service which large districts enjoyed.

ABSTRACT OF COMBINED REPORTS OF STATE COMMERCIAL, SAVINGS, AND FOREIGN BANKS OF CALIFORNIA FOR YEARS 1878, 1879, 1880, 1884, AND 1888

[The report for 1878 was the first to be compiled. The two succeeding years show the financial effect of the adoption of the new Constitution and the general business depression.]

ASSETS	*84 Banks July 1, 1878*	*83 Banks July 1, 1879*	*78 Banks July 1, 1880*	*92 Banks July 1, 1884*	*96 Banks July 1, 1888*
Bank premises	$ 3,025,655	$ 3,099,832	$ 2,825,787	$ 3,001,061	$ 3,290,535
Other real estate	4,825,975	4,851,217	6,209,967	5,217,057	2,637,282
Invested in stocks, bonds, etc	6,442,273	7,038,943	8,923,121	22,556,565	22,892,736
Loans on real estate	67,193,692	58,269,684	47,313,827	46,185,774	67,227,232
Loans on stocks, bonds, etc	15,390,067	8,836,170	5,930,620	11,541,199	14,432,084
Loans on other securities	2,722,963	2,413,417	3,268,558	7,064,388	6,357,050
Loans on personal security	20,811,113	14,470,539	13,994,896	30,019,257	42,291,159
Money on hand	14,791,217	13,895,642	16,682,485	12,130,851	18,049,518
Due from other banks	8,191,064	10,407,259	11,250,636	7,848,175	9,557,438
Other assets	8,538,411	2,872,715	3,175,523	4,310,423	5,506,069
Total resources	$151,932,430	$126,155,418	$119,575,520	$149,874,750	$192,241,103
LIABILITIES.					
Capital paid up	$ 37,515,973	$ 37,134,969	$ 25,127,140	$ 30,743,277	$ 44,298,350
Reserve fund, surplus, etc	8,715,388	8,786,317	10,709,225	15,749,455	15,395,114
Due depositors	100,128,432	76,730,302	79,278,287	96,021,677	126,027,653
Due to other banks and other liabilities	5,572,637	3,503,830	4,460,868	7,360,341	6,519,986
Total liabilities	$151,932,430	$126,155,418	$119,575,520	$149,874,750	$192,241,103

DIVIDENDS TO DEPOSITORS OF ALL CALIFORNIA SAVINGS BANKS TO JAN. 1, 1880

[Banks suspended at date of report included.]

SAN FRANCISCO BANKS.	*Date of Organization*	*No. of Depositors Jan. 1, 1880*	*Total Amount of Dividends to Depositors Since Organization*	*Average Rate Per Annum on Term Deposits Since Organization*
Savings and Loan Society	July 23, 1867	4,370	$10,024,961	% 10.73
Hibernia Savings and Loan Society	April 12, 1859	19,514	13,760,315	10.03
French Savings and Loan Society (old)	Feb. 1, 1860	11,086	5,691,417	9.38
San Francisco Savings Union	June 18, 1862	10,501	5,608,121	10.29
Odd Fellows' Savings Bank	Oct. 13, 1866	4,053	3,558,750	10.00
German Savings and Loan Society	Feb. 10, 1868	9,015	4,035,692	9.50
Masonic Savings and Loan Society	Nov. 4, 1869	1,837	709,393	9.71
Humboldt Savings and Loan Society	Nov. 24, 1869	1,777	560,810	9.16
Security Savings Bank	March 2, 1871	1,357	901,094	8.30
California Savings and Loan Society	June 14, 1873	443	124,121	8.10
Franco-American Savings Bank	March 26, 1877	241	13,661	7.06
French Savings and Loan Society (new)	March 11, 1879	3,229	12,373	5.25
Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Savings	June 1, 1867	695	306,464	10.16
Totals of San Francisco banks		68,118	$45,307,172	
COUNTRY BANKS.				
Oakland Bank of Savings	April 13, 1867	1,927	$ 541,162	9.83
Sacramento Savings Bank	May 19, 1867	1,615	2,483,216	9.50
Stockton Savings and Loan Society	Aug. 12, 1867	1,587	.....	....
San Jose Savings Bank	Jan. 30, 1868	1,003	484,883	8.00
Capital Savings Bank, Sacramento	Feb. 8, 1869	1,582	2,026,975	9.43
Marysville Savings Bank	April 8, 1869	769	764,883	10.77
Union Savings Bank, Oakland	May 26, 1869	2,233	572,527	9.90
Santa Cruz Bank of Savings and Loan	March 4, 1870	467	.....	....
Vallejo Savings and Commercial Bank	May 3, 1870	141	60,365	10.00
Bank of Mendocino	July 13, 1870	345	127,503	10.22
Napa Valley Savings and Loan Society	Sept. 25, 1871	149	173,911	9.04
Farmers Savings Bank of Stanislaus County	March 31, 1873	.....	.....	....
Commercial and Savings Bank, San Jose	May 8, 1874	1,058	230,385	....
Los Angeles County Bank	May 20, 1874	209	42,018	7.70
Sacramento Bank	Jan. 28, 1875	1,756	271,674	8.5
Odd Fellows' Sav. and Comm. Bank, Sacramento	Feb. 11, 1875	.....	.....	....
Merced Security Savings Bank	March 11, 1875	255	32,495	8.77
People's Savings Bank, Sacramento	July 1, 1879	88	643	7.00
Totals of country banks		15,184	$ 7,812,640	
Totals of San Francisco banks		68,118	45,307,172	
Grand totals of California savings banks		83,302	$53,119,812	

EXCESSIVE DEMAND LOANS

Banking and mercantile methods of early days produced a distinctive characteristic of one phase of the banking business in California which has persisted to the present time, and which is rarely noted, and that is an excessive proportion of demand loans not possessing definite maturity and carried for periods of uncertain length. It became the custom of merchants and often of bankers to carry credits and loans as open book accounts where the credit risk was considered good, or if the banker received a note it was probably unsecured and constituted in nature and legal effect a demand loan, which was carried according to mutual understanding and convenience. As is generally understood by bankers, previous to the Civil War it was the prevailing practice in the East for the retail merchant to give in exchange for his purchases from the wholesaler or manufacturer a note or acceptance with a definite date of maturity which provided bankable paper which the recipient could realize on after indorsement. After the war the competition of an active business period developed the custom of giving such mercantile credits on open account. In California other conditions nourished this practice from the beginning. The practice was the subject of two addresses by Frank Miller, cashier of the National Bank of D. O. Mills & Co. of Sacramento, at the first and second meetings of the California Bankers' Association in the spring and fall of 1891. During one of those addresses he observed: "Our bankers and merchants got in the way of doing much business on running accounts because the profits were large and the number of accounts small. Times have changed. Now the number of accounts must be large and the profits small."

It is of incidental interest to note, at a time when a return to mercantile acceptances is so widely urged, that twenty-five years ago a representative California banker was forcibly expounding and urging the advantages of mercantile acceptances to both the merchant and the banker, along with the disadvantages of overdrafts, then so prevalent and unrestricted. Both situations he ascribed mainly to competition in the business.

Another factor in this condition was the comparatively restricted capital upon which business was largely carried on. The consequence was that a banker, under the spur of competition and anticipated profits, was quite disposed to "carry" a good customer. Any San Francisco banker will be incidentally reminded of the exceptional situation in this respect which followed the great fire of April, 1906.

Thus it comes that California bank loans lack the liquidity characteristic in the older sections of the country. This is largely true of the entire Pacific Coast, but the record shows that California leads the country in the proportion of demand in comparison with time loans. Definite figures are not available for the state commercial banks, but the classification of loans given in the reports of the Comptroller of the Currency afford a definite comparison for the National banks. In an accompanying table the demand and time loans of National banks for the groups of banks taken are reduced to percentages of the total loans reported for June 30, 1914, that comparison may be more easily made. New York's relatively high percentage of demand loans is due to stock exchange operations.

LOANS OF NATIONAL BANKS JUNE 30, 1914, CLASSIFIED BY PERCENTAGES

	Demand, With One or More Names	*Demand, Secured by Collateral*	*Total Demand Loans*	*On Time, With Two or More Names*	*On Time, Single Name Paper*	*On Time, Secured by Collateral*
San Francisco	41.4	29.4	70.8	7.4	8.6	13.2
Los Angeles	43.4	17.9	61.3	12.3	14.7	11.7
California (country)	49.3	18.8	68.1	10.0	9.0	13.0
Portland	37.2	11.6	48.8	17.3	22.5	11.4
Oregon (country)	40.5	9.8	50.3	15.7	18.9	15.1
Seattle	20.8	15.7	36.5	24.8	18.2	20.5
Spokane	3.8	3.3	7.1	36.5	24.9	31.5
Washington (country)	29.8	13.7	43.5	20.1	21.9	14.5
Salt Lake City	17.2	10.4	27.6	23.7	22.4	26.3
New York	1.2	35.1	36.3	18.1	21.3	24.3
Chicago	8.3	11.4	19.7	31.0	28.7	20.6
St. Louis	9.5	16.4	25.9	31.8	14.2	28.1
Other reserve cities	11.2	18.3	29.5	27.5	22.2	20.8
All country banks	11.7	9.2	20.9	39.3	19.1	20.7

THE BANKING RECORD OF EARLY DAYS

By LE ROY ARMSTRONG

CHAPTER I

INITIAL PERIOD OF 1849-50

California banking not an evolution—Character of the Argonauts—Earliest gold discoveries—Gold depositaries of the Mission period—Jacob Leese and early gold purchases—First bank in San Francisco—Marshall's discovery and the initial excitement—The dramatic phase—Lack of money—Gold dust and duties—First coinage—Paper money issue—Banking houses of 1849—First express companies—Banking houses of 1850—Gold shipments in 1850—James King of William.

BANKING IN CALIFORNIA began with the beginning. In every other community on earth banking has been a subsequent, not an antecedent, condition. The bankers of London are said to have arisen from the goldbeaters and silversmiths of that city. Commerce had resulted from agriculture. Agriculture had succeeded to pioneering. Pioneering was the child of adventure. And in proper sequence after them came banking. Men who, through adventure, agriculture, and commerce, had accumulated plate, stored this for safekeeping with the goldbeaters. And presently they appealed to the goldbeaters for loans of money. What was true of London has been true in kind of every community on earth excepting California.

Here, in the very nature of things, banking went hand in hand with the initial efforts of the population that came with the discovery of gold. Agriculture had not been attempted. Manufacturing had not been considered. There was but one step from the pioneer to the bank. The man who struck a spade in virgin soil, along rivers which for a million of years had toyed with their treasure, found gold. And, because he found it and accumulated it, he needed a bank to take care of it for him.

California called to its shores capable men from half the circuit of the earth. They came from the snows of the North and the suns of the South. They came from every region under the sun.

"There is no East; there is no West,
Border, nor breed, nor birth,
When two strong men stand face to face,
Though they come from the ends of the earth."

And here in California assembled not two, but an increasing multitude of the sort of strong men that Kipling has typified in his poem. They proved their quality by demanding of the land which gave them birth not alone bread and shelter, not alone food and clothing, but gold—the most valuable, the most potent, the most desired agent that time has ever known. They were indifferent to the ordinary conveniences of civilization. They may have been more comfortable with blankets; but they could live without them. They would have appreciated a roof and the usual concomitants of a kitchen. Many of them would have known the value of such home adornments as are expressed in music and in books. But they were of the heroic type and could survive without them until such time as the product of their adventure could provide them. Stripped of everything but the manhood that was in them, removed by thousands of miles from every softness of civilization, deprived by distance and forbidden by fate from sharing in the gentler joys of life as expressed in the march of conventional progress, they stood naked to the elements, and demanded of nature only what they could compel nature to yield.

They are the type of men who came to California in that early day, and in a large measure ever since. Here came the Eng-

lishman, with his long-established ideals of what could not be done. Here came the Scotchman, shrewder and more accumulative than the Jew. Here came the German, with his dim and distant dream of a national character that should express itself in world-wide dominion. Here came the Russian, with his stolid, patient concept of a day. Here came the Italian, with half of Southern Europe encompassed in his scrip —the record and the romance of discovery behind him and the glamor of hope before. Here came the Frenchman, volatile, versatile, plausible. And here came from half around the world the somber sons of an Asia that had cradled the race, and asked no more than cradle comforts.

But more important than all that, here came the American.

"God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform."

The American nation found recognized establishment only with the beginning of the nineteenth century. The American character has been forming for more than a hundred years. There was little more than a generation of time from the establishment of the American system to the discovery of gold in California, and the rush of the human race for its acquirement. The American type was in a sense the combination of the best qualities of every race under the sun. Something of the genius that has governed always and everywhere was expressed in the character of the men from the Atlantic seaboard. They were not English, nor Russian, nor French. They were a newer and a more composite race. And this new creation assumed the dominance of the California situation. These strong men laid the foundation for a peculiarly American community on the Pacific Coast, and its essential virtues have never been taken away.

They came by every conveyance known to man. They came as Abram came up out of Ur of the Chaldees—on foot, and with a cavalcade of beasts of burden. They came with wagon, as immigrants from the Atlantic Colonies went to the forest and prairie land of the Middle West. They came in sailing vessels from every port on every sea. They crossed the Isthmus as they crossed the ocean, and the one incentive and engrossing aim was gold. And gold meant California.

Just when gold was first discovered in what is now the state is a subject of needless discussion. Of course, the gold was here, and in all probability the Indians had made primitive use of it. The white man first found California gold near Los Angeles. The Mexicans found gold in San Fernando Valley in 1840. Henry Mellus, trading along the coast in 1841, accumulated $5000 in gold dust at San Pedro. It was his judgment that $100,000 in gold had been taken from the Southern diggings. It was all placer gold, quick of acquiring, and of the same quality and value that pertains to all gold everywhere.

Existence of gold in the Sacramento Valley was known long before Marshall discovered it. Indians had been bringing it in to Yerba Buena ever since the Mission was established there. The Catholic fathers knew of its existence, and very probably had a shrewd estimate of its extent. But they were more loyal to the purpose which brought them here than were the soldiers and the sailors of the United States who followed them, and resisted the temptation to abandon their sacred duties for the maddening accumulation of treasure.

As the Missions owned a large proportion of the wealth of the country, the gold and silver money naturally passed into their hands in considerable quantities. In addition to their own funds they were entrusted with money saved by the members of their church. Having no strong boxes, they kept the cash concealed under the flooring of the Mission. William Heath Davis, a San Francisco merchant, gives an amusing account of the treasure of Captain Jose de la Guerra y Noriega, commandante of Santa Barbara. "He was a close buyer," says Davis, "generally paying cash (Mexican and Spanish doubloons). On one occasion De la Guerra took me to the attic of his house, where he kept his treasure, the room being used exclusively for that purpose. There was no stairway, the attic being reached by a ladder, which was removed when not in use. In this room were two old, fancy Spanish chairs, and ranged about were twelve or fifteen *coras*—strong, compactly woven baskets of different sizes, made by the Indians, the largest holding perhaps half a bushel, all of which contained gold, nearly full. This money was the accumulation of years of shrewd trading and the possessor did not know how much there was of it."

Fathers Palou and Cambon might have laid claim to the title of bankers, for they

undoubtedly had custody of specie that did not belong to them, except as custodians. Their successors had even a better claim to the title of being pioneer bankers, for it is recorded that in 1825 the Mission was possessed of $25,000 in specie. Part of these funds was Mission property, and as such belonged to the church rather than to the Mission. And part of it consisted of the savings of the early settlers. For many years prior to 1848 Indians and Mexicans were carrying on primitive mining operations and extracting gold dust, which they exchanged for merchandise, or had placed to their credit in the trading settlements, of which Monterey assumed some importance before the settlement of Yerba Buena. Jacob Primer Leese, almost the first American settler in Yerba Buena, has left a particularly interesting record in this connection. In 1837, at what is now the southwest corner of Montgomery and Commercial streets, Leese erected an adobe building which became a trading station. Here for several years he bartered with the Indians and Mexicans and the few trading vessels that entered the bay. It is an interesting coincidence that the site of his building afterwards became the site of the banking house of James King of William. During the years 1840 and 1841, such entries as the following appear in Leese's account books:

"By two ounces.....Cash $32.00
By three ounces.....Cash 48.00"

So that gold dust evidently commanded a good price in California in those days, for $16 an ounce was a liberal credit for the unrefined metal. It does not appear that there was any method of arriving at the quality of the dust, the quantity only having been measured.

Leese sold his building and lot to the Hudson Bay Company for $4600. This concern was the only one doing a general commercial business at Yerba Buena, until February 12, 1847, when W. B. M. Howard and Henry Mellus bought the property and formed the firm of Mellus, Howard & Company. This co-partnership bought gold dust, paying for it in certificates, coin, and exchange, until the latter part of 1849.

For the matter of that, other merchants who had established themselves at San Francisco in those famous years of 1848 and 1849, also bought gold dust and paid for it in the same manner.

The first bank of which any record is preserved was that of Wright & Company, established in San Francisco in the latter part of 1848—just when is uncertain. The personnel of that firm, its origin, and its later history baffle all search. But it was a bank—"The Miners' Bank"—and advertised itself under that name. Its location was on what is now Kearny Street, and it must have been opposite the plaza.

Just how extensive were the operations of Wright & Company it would be difficult to say. But they certainly received deposits, issued drafts and letters of credit, loaned money at a rate of interest that would be regarded as ruinous today, and in a general way discharged the functions of a bank.

Very likely there were other establishments of a somewhat similar character at Sacramento and nearer the mines. It is certain that Captain Sutter at his fort was frequently, if not habitually, made the custodian of gold and other treasure. But the first place in point of time must be given to the bank of Wright & Company.

For sentimental reasons, in order that a day of the year may be observed by appropriate ceremonies, it has been settled that James Marshall discovered gold at Coloma on January 24, 1848. The difference between his "discovery" and the finding and securing of gold dust and nuggets that preceded him lies in the fact that an article descriptive of his find, and generally exploiting the rich, gold-bearing nature of the region of the Sacramento and American rivers was published in the *Alta,* a newspaper then circulating modestly in San Francisco. By some chance the paper reached the office of the *Baltimore-American,* and an editor there saw the news value of a story that had been neglected by scores of others. He reprinted the *Alta's* article, giving it prominent space in his paper, and adding such headline impressiveness as to secure it a general circulation throughout the Atlantic seaboard. The result seems to have been instantaneous. The whole region from Maine to Georgia, and from Boston to the Mississippi, took fire with the rage for gold. Countless companies were formed for the trip to California, and before the year 1848 had passed thousands of men had set their faces toward California, and either had actually made their start or had perfected arrangements to come—some overland, some by sailing vessels around the Horn, and some by way of the Isthmus.

The *Alta Californian,* in its issue of May 29, 1848, said:

"The whole country from San Francisco to Los Angeles, and from the seashore to the base of the Sierra Nevadas, resounds with the sordid cry of gold! gold! gold!—while the field is left half planted, the house half built, and everything neglected but the manufacture of shovels and pick-axes, and the means of transportation to the spot where one man obtained $128.00 worth of the real stuff in one day's washing, and the average for all concerned is $20.00 per diem."

It was the last issue of the paper for several months. The printers seemed to have fallen victim to the general desire for gold. By July commerce in San Francisco was almost at a standstill for the lack of a circulating medium. There was plenty of business to transact, with scarcely any specie, and this the coinage of all countries. Such ships as arrived in the bay were immediately abandoned by their crews, who hurried to the mines. James Hutchinson, who was long a member of the banking firm of Drexel, Sather & Church, arrived by sailing vessel early in 1849. He is still living (1915), retired, and in the enjoyment of a beautiful home in Presidio Terrace. He tells of the forest of masts of ships anchored in the bay which he saw about him as his own ship found harborage. The crew of every vessel had left as soon as anchor was down, and not a man of them could be secured to assist in unloading the cargo. His own chest and personal belongings were down in the hold, with a score of others, and it was impossible for him to secure them. The captain was loyal to his trust and remained aboard ship. Also a mate, who had been particularly cruel to members of the crew on the way up the coast, and who feared to venture ashore lest he might meet men bent on vengeance, remained aboard the vessel. Mr. Hutchinson left his belongings where they were and went up to the mines. The life and its compensations did not appeal to him, and he returned two weeks later to San Francisco Bay. He found the vessel and its contents exactly as he had left them, and as the accommodations for living in San Francisco were decidedly limited, he accepted the captain's invitation to remain aboard ship until such time as he could find employment ashore. The incident is typical of the times.

It is difficult to write the story of even so prosaic a subject as Financial California and remain insensible to the romance of it. History has always worn a glamor, but in no place on earth has the progress of the remarkable seemed so dramatic as in San Francisco. The times were ripe for tremendous changes. This region, which had been a Spanish possession from the beginning of modern history, had been suddenly transferred to American control. Removed as it was from the established conditions, the men who came here in search of gold found themselves in contact with a civilization older than their own. They found the influence of the Church and the traditions of a population that regarded them and their origin as extremely new.

The result of the war with Mexico was fortunate for California in two respects. It presented a region of measureless wealth ready to the hand of the adventurer, and it provided that adventurer in the shape of the American, whose character had been so decisively formed.

These men, who made the city and the state, whose contribution to national treasure and national character has been so great, found no laws to guide them and no power to control them. The code and the consequence of their activity were of their own making. Without doubt there were violations of such laws and conventions as older communities might recognize. Without doubt there were erring natures who left their impress on passing events. But it must be conceded that the conditions that surrounded them had been unknown to all the sons of men. And if there were times when passion was expressed in deeds, or when records were written which we of a calmer day might deprecate, the thoughtful men will marvel more at the moderation of the actors then than at their extravagance.

When Warren Hastings was on trial for all that was precious to him in life, in fortune, and in sacred honor, he replied to his accusers: "When I consider the boundless opportunities at my command in India, and reflect on the trivial violation of which I stand accused, I am amazed at my own moderation."

Something very like miracles were wrought here, but the wonder is not that the Vigilance Committee hanged half a dozen men as that men planted here a city and erected a state. The wonder is not that great fortunes were made, nor that wealth was flung with a prodigal hand. It is a greater miracle that out of the unsettled conditions of the place and the time a financial morality took form, which has been the redemption of the nation's commerce and the correction of banking errors dis-

astrously common in other sections of the country. However they may have appeared in their nondescript costumes, however they may have behaved in the seething turbulence of a new era, these Argonauts laid broad and deep the foundation for a community as solid as that of the Puritans, as beautiful as the Alhambra, and in spite of all limitations of time, defying decay and accepting the earthquake as a brother, they have given to the twentieth century a city more fit than Rome for the boast of permanence.

California, which had been Spanish, was now American. The region was seized by the United States as a result of the war with Mexico, and the conclusion of that war left this territory permanently under the government at Washington. The state was admitted to the Union in 1850, and in the period between its occupancy in 1847 and the date of admission an unparalleled increase in population and in all branches of commerce had been made. Trading to the port of San Francisco had been in operation for years. The chief articles of export were hides and tallow. The former, in a rough, dry state, were shipped to the cities of the Atlantic Coast. Much of the tallow went to South American ports. Not many ships brought cargoes to this port before 1848 because there was small demand for merchandise. But it still was a port of entry, and the Mexicans had established here their custom house. This custom house fell to the American authorities when they took possession. California was under the rule of the military and the orders of the army were supreme.

With the increase of population, and particularly the type of men coming here, a unique financial situation arose. Business was stimulated tremendously. Merchandising increased beyond belief. Manufacture of such articles as a primitive mining population required leaped into active life.

But because of the character of the new population there was little ready money in the country. As a rule, the Argonaut was satisfied to reach the gold mines. He had not troubled to bring a treasure with him. He expected to carry one away. The chief product of the country was gold dust. Coin of any kind was scarce, and paper currency was so strenuously undesirable as to be almost unknown. As imports increased, the requirement of the custom house that all duties be paid in gold or silver coin became an increasing hardship. There was a great volume of merchandise imported, and it could not be liberated to the users of commerce until the duties were paid. And throughout the latter months of 1848 there was almost nothing excepting gold dust with which to pay them.

Even in July business in San Francisco was almost at a standstill. To relieve the distress, and in response to a very definite popular demand, Governor Mason, on July 31, 1848, issued the following proclamation:

"His Excellency consents to receive gold dust in payment of duties at the custom house at a low rate, with the right of redemption of the whole by the payer within 180 days, or of the half within ninety days, upon giving the proper amount in gold or silver coin."

But the authorities kept a pretty shrewd oversight of the matter, for on September 10, 1848, Lieutenant Halleck, later a general, but at the time in the discharge of the modest duties of Secretary of State for the military district of California, sent the following order to Captain J. L. Folsom, receiver of customs at San Francisco:

"Sir: As soon as all redemption of the gold dust in your hands, received on deposit as security for the payment of duties, expires, you will give due notice, and sell it at public auction. In order that there may be no loss to the revenue, you will bid it in for the value at which it was deposited. If it sells for more, the surplus, after expenses of the sale are deducted, will be paid over to the depositors. The gold dust received in payment of duties, with the privilege of redemption, of course becomes the property of the United States if not redeemed at the expiration of the time specified without any sale. Respectfully, your obedient servant."

No sooner was relief felt by the operation of the new rule than the Governor discovered that he had exceeded his authority, and immediately rescinded it. Some technically exacting employee had pointed out that Congress in 1846 had enacted a law forbidding the acceptance of anything but United States gold or silver coin in payment of duties.

It is but natural under these circumstances that coin of private issue, which could answer the ends of trade, should find its way into public use. Among the thousands of new-comers to California were a few who understood the mysteries of assaying precious metals. It was but the employment of the mechanical to add the coining of money to this industry. So that while the people of San Francisco were badgering the Governor for the privilege of paying their duties in other than authorized coin, and were bombarding Congress with appeal

for relief, half a dozen assayers were issuing money in various denominations; nor is it at all surprising that these should be welcomed by the community.

Other intercessions at Washington developed anew the evidence that history repeats itself. As the Governor first permitted them to pay duties in gold dust and then withdrew the permit, so the Secretary of the Treasury first authorized the acceptance of privately minted gold coin, and immediately revoked that order. But in the interim between his concession and its recall a great deal of helpful activity had been recorded. The coins were marked with their weight and fineness, and as a rule were worth their face in any money in the world. There were exceptions in the case of some assayers and coiners who were not above making a profit by withholding quantity, but the rule was that the new coinage, without authorization from Washington, and even ignoring its prohibition, possessed all the value that it claimed, and the names of Moffit & Company, Wass, Molliter & Company, August Humbert, and Baldwin & Company are assured forever of the credit due to men whose services were helpful to the community in which they lived.

The question naturally arises: What authority had the assayers in California to issue their coin? They had none. It is probable that their issue was a technical violation of the criminal law of the nation. And yet the thing was so urgent, and the services of the unauthorized coin so valuable, that no process was ever invoked against the coiners.

For the matter of that, the government did not object to private coinage of gold in other states. The $2.50 piece was coined of gold in Georgia from 1831 to 1852. A few of these coins still are left, but are very rare. Coins of $5 and of $1 were made in the Carolinas during the same period, and the Mormons of Utah may rightfully claim position in the ranks of those who converted ore into a more convenient circulating medium. Their coinage was more extensive than that of any other American region, with the single exception of California.

For more than three years the unprecedented growth in commerce at San Francisco was maintained largely by the use of money which lacked the national authority. It was not until July 3, 1852, that the following law received the President's approval:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that a branch mint of the United States be established in California to be located by the Secretary of the Treasury, for the coinage of gold and silver. . . .

"Section 8. Be it further enacted that, if required by the holders, gold in grain or lumps shall be refined, assayed, cast into bars or ingots, and stamped in said branch mint, or in the mint of the United States, or any of its branches in such manner as may indicate the value and fineness of the bars or ingots, which shall be paid for by the owners or holders of said bullion, at such rates and charges, and under such regulations, as the Director of the Mint, under the control of the Secretary of the Treasury, may from time to time establish."

It would have been impossible for business men in California to make any progress at all if they had waited for the enactment of this law. By the time permission was granted, there was a sufficient volume of clandestine money in circulation. And no harm was done, because the unauthorized coins were rapidly retired, and the genuine issues of the government mint took their place.

As a rule, California has been a "hard money state." There has been little tendency to use paper currency. Whether because of the bad character of much of the bank issues of the Middle and Eastern states, or whether because of a sort of loyal pride in their primitive gold, the men who bought and sold and got gain scorned the flimsy paper token and demanded metal.

And yet the house of Felix Argenti & Company sought in 1850 to supply the needs of trade with an issue of paper money of their own. They had engraved and printed a quantity of bills of the denominations of $50, $100, $500, and $1000. While they very closely resembled money, both in the character and the quality of the engraving, they really were no more than promissory notes, and pledged the house to pay "on demand for value received" and to the bearer, whoever he might be, the face of his obligation. And they promised to pay "in specie." Few even of the older bankers of San Francisco ever handled any of this money. How much of it was issued is uncertain. And whether it was a contributing cause to the later downfall of the banking house of Argenti & Company would be purely problematical now. But the fact remained that California had a paper money of its own.

Like the coin issued from the various assay offices, this paper money must have been in direct violation of the national law. But the same condition which called forth

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NOTES ISSUED BY F. ARGENTI & CO. OF SAN FRANCISCO IN 1850

the private coinage also excused the Argenti bills.

In 1855 the Legislature of California made it a misdemeanor to "make, issue, or put in circulation, any bill, check, ticket, certificate, promissory note of any bank to circulate as money."

The first banking house to open in 1849—and erroneously stated by some authorities to be the first banking house in San Francisco—was that of Naglee & Sinton. It was composed of Henry M. Naglee, who had been a captain in Stevenson's regiment, and Richard H. Sinton, a merchant. The latter soon retired, after which the firm was known as H. M. Naglee & Company. The house opened for business on January 9, 1849, in what was then the Parker House, and a sign over the door announced it to be an "Exchange and Deposit Office."

The bank of Burgoyne & Company was opened on June 5, 1849, and was followed by the establishment of Thomas G. Wells during the second week in August. B. Davidson, who acted as the local agent for the Rothschilds of London after the suspension of Wells & Company in 1851, opened his banking house in September, 1849. Wells & Company, representing Willis & Company of Boston, and Drew, Robinson & Company of New York, came in October. The banking house of James King of William was established on December 5 of the same year, making six banking houses in San Francisco at the close of 1849.

Meantime, the current price of gold dust had risen and the bankers' rates for grain dust were $15.50 to $15.75 an ounce. These are the rates that dust brought in exchange for coin, but when it was received on deposit it was credited at $16 an ounce and repaid at the same rate.

By the latter part of 1849 considerable coin was in circulation, brought to San Francisco by immigrants from every part of the world. It was of a heterogeneous character, and—so great was the need of some circulating medium—it passed even among bankers with total disregard of its actual value. Currency was accepted nowhere, and copper coins were uncommon. The English shilling, the American quarter-dollar, the French franc and the Mexican double-real passed at the same value; likewise the English crown, the French five-franc piece, and the American or Mexican dollar. Four single francs passed in exchange for an English five-shilling piece, although the difference was more than 25 per cent, which would be regarded today as a pretty fair rate of exchange. The smaller silver coins of every denomination and of every country passed as "a bit," this being the smallest denomination recognized. There were also Indian rupees, Dutch and German florins and guilders, and South American coinage in circulation.

During 1848 the manifested shipments of gold from this state were $45,301, while the production was estimated at $3,000,000. During 1849 the manifested shipments were $6,151,360 and the estimated production $25,000,000.

Besides the six banking firms mentioned as having been in business at the close of 1849, four others were added during 1850. The first of these was the banking house of Drury J. Tallant, which was established in February of that year, and it was the first financial institution to continue its existence in any form to the present. Judge Wilde entered the firm later, when it became known as Tallant & Wilde. Upon the latter's death, the firm was known as Tallant & Company, was later reorganized as the Tallant Banking Company, and was finally absorbed by the Crocker-Woolworth National Bank, now the Crocker National Bank. It is the only financial institution of 1850 that has survived in any form the vicissitudes of more than sixty years.

In June two other banks were formed. One—Page, Bacon & Company—was composed of Daniel D. Page and his son, H. D. Bacon, and Henry Haight. The last named was afterward Governor of California. It was affiliated with the St. Louis bank of Page, Bacon & Company, of which it was a branch. F. Argenti & Company, another banking house, opened in the same month and year. Bolton, Barron & Company also did a private banking business in 1850 in connection with a general mercantile business.

Many of these firms had large loans out with real estate and general merchandise as security, both of which suffered from a heavy slump in the fall of 1850. Burgoyne & Company, Wells & Company, and James King of William were subjected to serious runs, but they were able to meet all demands. H. M. Naglee & Company was not so fortunate, and the firm suspended payment on September 7, 1850.

This was the first serious failure in San Francisco, and it is a rather remarkable record in view of the unprecedented fluctuations and the undesirable character of

securities. The explanation of the success of these firms is doubtless to be found in the fact that movements in values were generally upward. Real estate values occasionally doubled in a single day, while the arrival of a vessel with a cargo of merchandise forced down the price of stocks on hand to a point where they were not worth the loans that had been made on them.

It has been said that the men who came to California in the very early days brought no law with them, but there was a consensus of sentiment among them which marked pretty clearly the things that could not be done. These men went to the core of things. They found the same reason for their ethics that Moses found for the canonical law. And as the most constant and essential elements of their life related to finance, it was natural that the bulk of their laws — of course, unwritten — should be related to that subject. So we read that Edward Bosqui, applying to a banking house for work, was given a draft on another banking house and sent to collect the money. He was wholly unknown to the banker who entrusted him, and equally unknown to the one who paid him. He had not a tie of any sort in California. He was a youth, and the serious things of life might not have appealed to him. Yet it never occurred to him to fail in returning with the cash to the banker who had commissioned him. He was surprised that he had been trusted, but the banker would have been still more surprised if he had proved unfaithful.

The miners on the Feather River and the American accumulated gold dust and nuggets amounting to pounds in weight and thousands of dollars in value. This they habitually entrusted to chance acquaintances who were going to San Francisco, with the simple and unsecured promise to deposit it in safety to the credit of the owner. And out of the countless instances of this kind there is scarcely a record of a breach of trust.

General W. T. Sherman tells of the time when the bank of which he was manager faced a very serious embarrassment. He went to an acquaintance, who also was a debtor, and stated his case. He asked that the amount of the debt be paid immediately. The debtor conjectured that even if the amount was supplied the future of his friend might not be secured, and he volunteered the loan of an equal sum in addition. It happened that the storm which Sherman's prudence anticipated was not as severe as had been threatened, and the accommodation was not needed. But the principle remains.

That was in the '50s. Ten years later, or a little more, a period of great depression in money matters was again experienced. There was a run on the Hibernia Bank. William C. Ralston knew the closing of the doors of that institution would be the signal for disaster that would involve many banks, though it could not embarrass his own. He mounted a box at the door of the Hibernia Bank and addressed the crowd of depositors clamoring for their cash. They knew him by sight. Scores of them knew him personally, and had been recipients of his favor. Above all men living, they had confidence in him. He told them that their money was safe, even if the Hibernia people were unable to pay every depositor on demand. He explained that bankers loaned a portion of their deposits and in no other way would they be able to pay their interest charges. He told them to get their books written up and bring them to The Bank of California, his own bank, when their money would be paid on demand. The run on the Hibernia was ended instantly.

These are essentially typical of Financial California. The custodian of treasure discharged his duties because it was right to do so. There is a big and broad rule of equity which lives in the human soul, and which found its expression in the characteristics of the men who erected the financial fabric of this state. And the sound, moral essence of the commandment, "Thou shalt not steal," needed no chiseling on tablets of stone. It was necessary for the finger of God to write that law at Sinai. These men of the new California obeyed that law instinctively, and they punished with a sure and swift correction those few who violated it.

For nearly thirty years after banking began in California there were no bank examinations. The depositors' security rested alone upon the character of the banker. And the same fidelity which made the boy Bosqui bring back the money entrusted to his irresponsible hands made the bankers vigilant in the care of the treasure entrusted to them.

No wonder that in their day, when the nation at large pinned its faith to chimerical schemes of finance, California advanced the strong argument of money integrity. In a

community founded on good faith, and achieving good works, it may not be surprising that sound money should be the slogan and the symbol of Financial California.

In the beginning any merchant who had an iron safe could call his establishment a bank, and was sure of doing a varying amount of banking business. Banking at that time, like politics later, found strange bedfellows. One bank shared premises with the office of a livery stable. One was in a hotel. Another enterprising genius advertised coffins and exchange on New York.

Before long, however, the growth of business made it necessary to segregate banking from the selling of goods. Naglee & Sinton are credited with being forerunners in this transition. The day of the specialized bank had come, and, as stated, there were six banking houses at the close of 1849.

D. J. Tallant & Company joined the banking fraternity in February, 1850. They were followed in June by Page, Bacon & Company, representing a large St. Louis house of the same name, and Felix Argenti & Company, representing Brown Brothers & Company of New York, and Brown, Shipley & Company of Liverpool, established themselves in March. Before the end of 1850 there were added to the list of San Francisco bankers, Bolton, Barron & Company, E. B. Dunbar, W. F. Young, S. B. Ludlow, representing Ludlow & Company of New York, and Godeffroy, Sillem & Company, representing J. C. Godeffroy & Company of Hamburg.

There were smaller operators whose transactions were mainly confined to buying and selling gold dust and could not properly be classed as bankers. It is a singular fact that not one of the names above given appears in the list of San Francisco bankers today. Tallant & Wilde survived in the Crocker National Bank, their affairs having long ago been absorbed by that institution. Sacramento enjoys a peculiar advantage in this regard, for the name of D. O. Mills—first as merchant, then as banker—persists in the national bank of his name at the state capital today.

The express companies were unable to follow the good example of merchants. They could not well separate their carrying business from the business of banking. And we find Adams & Company and Wells-Fargo & Company, with agencies in every prominent mining camp of the state, buying gold dust and shipping it to all parts of the world, charging 5 per cent to the Eastern states, and also receiving deposits and making loans. As they were nearer the sources of the gold, and were engaged in the business of transporting treasure, it was difficult for them to avoid the responsibility of a depositary, and the banking feature was a necessary result.

Some idea of the magnitude of the operations in gold dust may be gained from the manifests of the custom house, which show that in 1850 the shipments of gold dust from San Francisco were $29,441,583. In 1851 they were $34,492,634, and in April, 1852, $45,804,321. About 70 per cent of the shipments went to New York, about 10 per cent to London, and the balance to New Orleans, China, and South American ports. The amounts that went forward in private hands and such sums as remained to serve the ends of business in California can only be conjectured. But it is estimated by writers of the period that one-half of the total product never figured in the official reports.

The personal equation is always interesting. The William Heath Davis, mentioned elsewhere, seems to have dropped out of the record entirely. In the swift transition of affairs in California one must have been strong indeed to have left an impress continuing to the present. One of the characters by no means forgotten is James King of William. His very name is peculiar. Many have accounted for it on the theory that he was James King, son of William King. The better explanation is that he came from William County, in Maryland, and long before leaving that state was known as James King of William, in contradistinction to a James King of Fayette, an adjoining county. He had some money and more credit, and in the rapidly appreciating days of 1849 established himself as a banker. Prosperity came to him, and he erected a three-story building at the southwest corner of what is now Montgomery and Commercial streets. His own story is most interesting. He tells of the varying fortunes of his bank through the closing months of 1849 and the year following. Reverses came to him, as to others, and he foresaw his inability to weather the financial gale. He seems to have been an exceedingly conscientious man, and rather than imperil the deposits of any one he made an arrangement with Adams & Company, by which they took over his affairs, guaranteeing the payment of all claims against him, and appropriating his assets.

BANKING HOUSE OF JAMES KING OF WILLIAM IN THE EARLY FIFTIES

They also gave him a position in their bank at a salary of $1000 a month. The price may have seemed high, but the prestige of the man was worth money, and in a new community the reason and the process of his quitting independent banking commended him to the people. They believed him to be honest.

He confesses himself greatly relieved at the arrangement, and declares that the manager of Adams & Company was equally satisfied and said that he would not cancel the arrangement for $10,000.

Adams & Company failed later, and James King of William was without employment. For a little time he seems to have been unoccupied. But he presently established a newspaper, calling it *The Bulletin*. He was a good writer, given to vigorous and sometimes severe commentary on men and affairs about him. It was a day of plain speech and vigorous action. James P. Casey was publisher of an opposition paper. There is a type of newspaper reader which demands that its editor be constantly embroiled in quarrels. It measures the journalistic ability by the harshness of savagery of its attacks. We find a later exemplification of this in the following of Brick Pomeroy, an editor of Civil War times, who capitalized vituperation, and accumulated wealth. The literary treasures of S. S. Prentice, now found in scrap books, are more commonly examples of "skinning his enemies" than the beautiful tributes to virtue of which he was equally master. W. F. Story of the Chicago *Times* achieved a bad eminence by attacking General Grant. And even the revered Henry Watterson is taxed to his utmost in his later years, burying in beautiful paragraphs the memory of many a bludgeoning he has delivered.

Casey had the gift of salacious comment. He was no respecter of persons, and attacked wherever his fancy directed. More than one old resident of San Francisco declares in plain terms that Casey was a blackmailer. James King of William was an aristocrat of the better kind. He bore the blood of the best Southern races. He was a Democrat, which gave him fellowship and common interest with the men who worked with their hands. There was a natural antipathy between the two men. Necessarily James King of William was the enemy of James P. Casey. He seems to have responded to the tacit appeal for protection which prominent citizens felt while they would not express it. Himself devoted to plain speech, and employing considerable latitude in criticizing men and measures, he held in detestation the editorial policy and practice of Casey.

Some one in the seething population of the new city had knowledge of Casey's past. Some one told James King of William that Casey was an ex-convict. James King of William promptly verified it with record evidence, and then published an article which set the town ablaze. He declared that Casey had served a sentence in Sing Sing Prison, in the State of New York, and presented enough of collateral evidence to make a very convincing article.

If he was seeking to silence the traducer of his friends, he was unfortunate. For while Casey was unable to deny the published charge, he was not above punishing the publisher of his record. He visited the *Bulletin* office and demanded that James King of William write a retraction. This the latter positively refused to do. Later in the day, and on the street near his office, James King of William was shot and killed by Casey, and the latter surrendered himself to the authorities.

In only a collateral way can these events be considered a part of Financial California. And yet it is necessary to add that the killing of James King of William was the culmination of a series of crimes which marked that troubled period, and the domination of the Vigilance Committee followed instanter. Casey was taken from prison and hanged. It is interesting, but not gratifying, to know that Casey collapsed, and pleaded most abjectly against the fate before him. He lacked that stern stuff heroes are made of. A philosopher of the time expressed the prevailing sentiment when he said: "It was a case of thoroughbred and scrub. And hanging the scrub has not given us back our thoroughbred."

Present-day bankers escape some of the experiences of the early-day custodians of cash. Edward Bosqui tells of an incident in the course of his employment with the firm of Palmer, Cook & Company that is worth recounting. At page 54 in his "Memoirs" Mr. Bosqui says:

> "During the months of August and September, 1850, a number of burglaries and bold thefts were committed along the water front, which caused great alarm and anxiety. One night I was awakened by some one trying to open the front door of the office. Fortunately, my employers, apprehensive of such an attack, had advised me to sleep on the office counter; otherwise I might not have heard the disturbance. Cautiously sliding out of the blankets to the floor

and going around the counter to reach the door, I saw a man peering into the office above the window sill. All was still for a few moments, which seemed hours to me; then a key was inserted into the door lock. Again the outlines of a man's head appeared at the window. I could distinctly see the face. Just then another head appeared and another effort was made to get in. I did not wait for developments, but shouted 'Thieves!' 'Murder!' repeatedly, as loudly as I could, and struck and shook the door. There was a scramble down the steps, and a thud as of a heavy man falling. Opening the door, I saw two men run across the plaza and disappear in the darkness. Had they succeeded in effecting an entrance to the bank they would undoubtedly have silenced me and secured a large sum of money, as $30,000 in gold dust had been deposited the day before and placed in an iron chest under the counter.

"A short time after this incident I was again awakened about midnight by a confused sound of many voices. The noise grew louder and louder, and a light appeared at the Clay Street window. At first the uproar seemed like a nightmare, but soon I was wide awake. Looking through the window, I was astonished to see in the uncertain light an object hanging to the cross-beams supporting the roof of the veranda. I heard a command: 'Stop pulling; he's as high as he can go.' Then there was a confusion of voices, and more commands. Presently some one cried: 'Let us see his face!' Looking over the plaza, I could see a mob gathering around the old adobe building as the dark-lantern cast its unsteady beams upon portions of the crowd; and finally the light flashed upon the horrible, distorted features of a man hanging by his neck, not thirty feet from where I stood. The mob soon dispersed, and I got into my blankets on the counter—not to sleep, however, as voices under the veranda could be heard discussing whether the man's neck was broken and whether he was dead. I passed a restless night, looking out every now and then upon the corpse swaying to and fro before my window. Daylight came, and the body of Jenkins was taken away. It was supposed that he was one of the gang of thieves who attempted to rob the bank. There were no more thefts, murders, or outrages for a long time after that."

CHAPTER II

SAN FRANCISCO BANKS OF THE FIFTIES

Banks of 1851 and succeeding years—Wells, Fargo & Company—Page, Bacon & Company—Palmer, Cook & Company—Drexel, Sather & Church—Lucas, Turner & Company—Sanders & Brenham—Savings banks of 1854—New firms of 1855-56—Parrott & Company—Garrison, Morgan, Fretz & Ralston—Failure of Palmer, Cook & Company—Sam Brannan's savings bank—Panic of 1857—New firms of 1858—List of banks at end of decade.

From the beginning of 1851 to the close of 1853 a number of banks were established in San Francisco. In listing the principal business houses of the city at the close of 1853 the "Annals of San Francisco" says there were nineteen banks, and adds the doubtful compliment that "about half of them were institutions of the highest credit." The operations of one of these establishments amounted to $80,000,000 in a single year.

The suspension of Wells & Company on October 3, 1851, was the only serious failure of this period, and with that of H. M. Naglee & Company, were the only two in the history of the city up to the great panic of 1855.

The principal banks established between the end of 1850 and the beginning of 1854 were: Adams & Company, McNulty & Company, Delessert, Cordier & Company, Drexel, Sather & Church, Goddefroy, Sillen & Company, Palmer, Cook & Company, Sanders & Brenham, Wells, Fargo & Company, Robinson & Company, Carothers, Anderson & Company, and Lucas, Turner & Company.

There were other institutions of lesser importance, most of which combined banking with other pursuits. One advertisement of the period appearing in the *Alta* announces a willingness to "issue exchange on New York, buy gold dust, sell metallic burial cases, and give special attention to the embalming of bodies."

During this period many mercantile firms and forwarding agencies drifted in and out of the banking business, and left but fragmentary records of their existence. For instance, the name of Pioche & Bayerque first appears published in a list of bankers in 1860, and yet this firm was engaged in the mercantile business as early as the spring of 1850, having been situated on the north side of Clay Street, below Kearny, and next door to the bank of B. Davidson & Company. Bolton, Barron & Company, a mercantile firm, who afterwards established a banking house, accepted deposits as early as 1850.

Although Wells, Fargo & Company did not organize a regular banking house in this city until July 13, 1852, the firm was transacting an exchange business as early as 1850 at 114 Montgomery Street. The firm announced that it would issue exchange on fifty-three cities in the United States.

In 1852 Page, Bacon & Company was housed in the Parrott Building, at California and Montgomery streets, with a Sacramento branch at J and Front streets. In this year Tallant & Wilde took in James Robb as a special partner and was situated at Montgomery and Clay streets.

Palmer, Cook & Company was organized in 1852, and established offices at 185 Kearny Street. The firm was composed of Joseph C. Palmer, Charles W. Cook, George W. Wright, and Edward Jones.

Drexel, Sather & Church, which was composed of Francis M. Drexel, Pedar Sather, and Edward W. Church, was located at Montgomery and Commercial Streets. It should be mentioned in referring to street numbers that they did not run the same as they do at present—185 Kearny Street, for instance, being at the intersection of Washington.

The firm of Lucas, Turner & Company, which has received lengthy treatment in the "Memoirs" of General William T. Sherman, was established in 1854 at 104 Montgomery Street, corner of Jackson. The house was composed of John Simonds of St. Louis, Henry S. Turner, Ben R. Nisbet, and General Sherman, who was the resident manager. It is a fact worthy of note that the three largest banking houses of that period were financed with St. Louis capital. Lucas, Turner & Company, however, managed to

keep itself clear from the dishonest transactions. It retired in the latter part of the decade in good financial standing.

Sanders & Brenham were established in this year at 129 Montgomery Street.

The year 1854 was prolific in savings banks. The Miners' Exchange and Savings Bank was established in the Armory Hall building on Montgomery Street. Dr. A. S. Wright, who was the proprietor, advertised to pay 18 per cent interest on all accounts, and as this was a very high rate on such business even for that period, the suspicion naturally arises that the institution was one of the wild-cat banks of the day.

In the same year, 1854, J. B. Timmerman & Company established the Savings Bank and Exchange Office at Clay and Sansome streets. The advertisement of Timmerman announced that he was prepared to act also in the capacities of auctioneer and commission merchant, from which it may be surmised that his banking career did not engage him very seriously.

By this time Wells, Fargo & Company had become thoroughly established as a banking institution, with a paid-up capital stock of $500,000. Colonel W. J. Pardee was the resident manager.

The next two years witnessed the addition of a number of banks to San Francisco's list of financial institutions. F. Argenti, an old firm, was then situated at the southwest corner of Montgomery and Washington streets, with Cavalier & Company, a new firm, in the same building. Abel Guy, a French banker, was established on Washington Street, opposite the custom house. H. Hentsch, the Swiss consul, conducted a banking business at the northwest corner of Montgomery and Jackson streets, while Lucien and Samuel Hermann announced themselves as bankers, with offices upstairs at Montgomery and Commercial streets.

Marriott & Wheeler were established as bankers at 98 Merchant Street, and L. E. Ritter at 144 Washington Street. A certain Wilkinson, acting as the agent of a Marysville bank, had offices at the northwest corner of Montgomery and Jackson streets.

It was in 1856 that the firm of Parrott & Company was established at Montgomery and Sacramento streets. The founder of the firm, John Parrott, had been a United States consul on the west coast of Mexico, where he had amassed a great fortune. He established the bank that bore his name without the aid of capital other than his own, and for many years the bank was one of the leading financial institutions of the Pacific Coast. Its connections with Oriental and South and Central American houses were particularly strong, and it absorbed a large part of the foreign commercial business.

Several changes in location took place about this time. J. B. Timmerman had moved his savings bank to 116 California Street; Drexel, Sather & Church were now situated at Battery and Clay, while Lucas, Turner & Company had moved from Montgomery and Jackson streets to Battery and Washington.

A new firm to be established at this time was Garrison, Morgan, Fretz & Ralston, which was situated across the street from Lucas, Turner & Company, at Battery and Washington streets. Garrison, who was one of the first Mayors of the city, soon dropped out of the firm, as did Morgan, whereupon the firm became known as Fretz & Ralston. As the successor of this house is still in existence, it will be noted more fully in a subsequent chapter.

The most serious financial disaster of 1856, and, in fact, of the decade, was the failure of Palmer, Cook & Company for $3,500,000. The establishment of this firm has already been noted, as well as its connection with Page, Bacon & Company, a connection, indeed, that had much to do with its own suspension. The bank was really a politico-financial institution, and its true character had been pretty well exploited by James King of William in answering in the *Bulletin* attacks made on his own banking career, which appears to have been particularly honorable.

The proprietors of Palmer, Cook & Company had been intimately associated with both state and municipal politics and had been compelled to extend many financial favors in exchange for political favors. The house was the principal depository for state and municipal funds, and had handled the early state bond issues—issues that were afterward invalidated by the Supreme Court. In the first years of its existence, Palmer, Cook & Company had established an excellent reputation and enjoyed the confidence of all the old Spanish families, whose depository the bank was. That the final collapse came only after the wholesale looting of the institution by its own officers and allied political interests, there is little doubt.

The year 1855 had been disastrous to financial institutions, as is noted in another chapter, in the failures of Adams & Company and Page, Bacon & Company, and the year 1856 began with a very unsettled feeling. In addition to this, the scandal attaching to the failure of Adams & Company had been transferred in a considerable degree to Palmer, Cook & Company, because of the relations of the two houses. The house was assisted several times by other banks, but finally suspended in the early part of 1856. Again it was assisted, and another effort made to tide it over its difficulties, but without avail, and the final suspension took place in July, after the bank had failed to meet the interest upon state bonds. The subsequent liquidation showed the financial ruin that had been wrought by the failure, but it was exceeded by the damage done to the reputations of its officers as well as a number of public officials.

Doubtless the direct cause of the failure was the exposure of the fact that the officers of the bank had acted collusively with Henry Bates, State Treasurer, in failing to transmit to New York interest on bonds turned over to the firm by him. After the invalidation of the state debt, the people had revolted and cast an enormous majority of votes against repudiation. On July 1, 1856, there was due in New York interest on these bonds in the sum of $88,520. Without any warrant from the Controller, or without taking any security, Bates, about April 12, turned over to Palmer, Cook & Company the money that he should have transmitted directly to New York. The firm failed also to transmit the sum, and permitted the interest to default. The exposure of this transaction brought about the failure of Palmer, Cook & Company, as it did the impeachment of Bates by the State Senate.

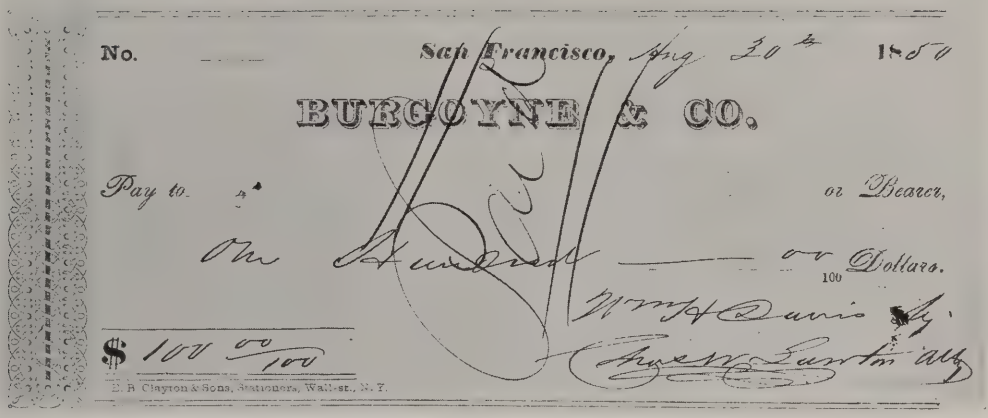
On the wreck of this bank, Joseph C. Palmer attempted to rear another institution, and he became the successor in interest of the bank proper, but the end came on November 27, 1857, when his place was closed by the Sheriff on an attachment for $36,690, sued out by J. H. Turney and M. G. Reed, the latter a bookkeeper.

A number of other changes took place during 1857. On October 31 of that year Samuel Brannan established a savings bank, the deposits being secured by $450,000 worth of real estate held in trust for redemption. It was the same scheme that Alexander Hamilton had protested against more than fifty years before, when a similar project was launched in New York. Brannan's Bank, as it was known at first, was situated at the northeast corner of California and Montgomery streets. Volney E. Howard, Samuel J. Hensley, and Eli Cook, all men of excellent reputation, were the trustees of the real estate. Brannan advertised to pay 3 per cent per annum on deposits, and the institution never attained much standing or popularity.

In this year Henry Hentsch moved to the northwest corner of Montgomery and Jackson streets, and Wells, Fargo & Company increased its capital stock to $600,000. Among the new banks established that year were Alsop & Company, which had existed for some time as a commercial house, at 111 California Street; Henry Bainbridge at Montgomery and Merchant streets, and Banks & Ball at Montgomery and Commercial streets. The latter firm afterward became Banks & Davis, finally retiring altogether.

During the early part of this year it was discovered that the United States branch mint had been robbed of $3333 in gold clippings. Suspicion attached to William Bein, an employee, who was arrested, tried, convicted, and sentenced on August 17 to six years' imprisonment, and to pay a fine of $2000. These losses led to an investigation, which developed the fact that they were trivial peculations compared with the greater stealings that had been going on, and on November 18 of the same year Augustin Harazthy, the minter, was indicted for embezzling $251,000.

On November 2, 1857, the steamer *John L. Stephens* reached port with the news of the financial panic in the East. The local institutions were chiefly affected by the failure of the Ohio Life Insurance Company of New York and the loss of the steamship *Central American,* which carried $1,800,000 in gold. Sather & Church—Francis Drexel had retired from the firm,—Wells, Fargo & Company, and another small house suspended. Sather & Church immediately published a statement of their resources and liabilities, showing that they had assets aggregating $464,000, whereas they owed depositors but $242,000. This served to allay the public alarm, and the house soon resumed. The suspension of Wells, Fargo & Company lasted but three days, it being finally shown that the house was in excel-



No. ____ San Francisco, Aug 30th 1850

BURGOYNE & CO.

Pay to ____ or Bearer,

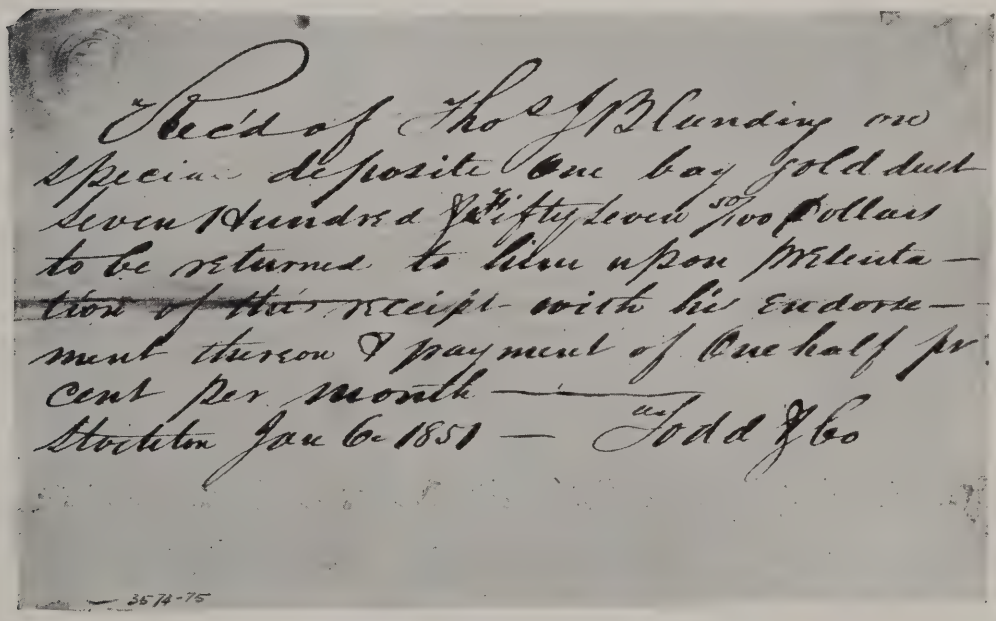
One Hundred ____ 00/100 Dollars.

Wm H Davis Jr

Chas W Curtis Atty

$ 100 00/100

E. B. Clayton & Sons, Stationers, Wall-st., N. Y.



Rec'd of Thos J Blanding one Special deposite One bag Gold dust Seven Hundred & fifty Seven 50/100 Dollars to be returned to him upon Presentation of this Receipt with his Endorsement thereon & payment of One half per Cent per Month ——

Stockton Jan 6th 1851 — pro Todd & Co

3574-75

REMINISCENT OF EARLY TIMES AND FIRMS

lent financial condition, and that it never would have closed had it not been for the needless alarm of Colonel Pardee, the manager.

The latter half of this decade had not been an auspicious one for bankers, due to a variety of causes, chief of which was the financial depression in the East and the consequent failures in this city, a state of affairs that tended to cast suspicion on all banks. In the year 1858, although there were no serious failures, conditions were unsteadied by the Fraser River excitement, and business reached a state of great depression. It is estimated that 6 per cent of the population left California for British Columbia, and the value of real estate in San Francisco fell fully 50 per cent. Withdrawals were very heavy, and in the three days ending January 19, 1858, Tallant & Wilde paid out $900,000.

On April 1 Sather & Church announced their intention of paying all drafts on them in New York and other Eastern cities, preparatory to a resumption of business. The affairs of the bank were soon reorganized, and the firm continued in business until April 29, 1861, when Edward W. Church, one of the partners, died. The firm name was continued for some years thereafter, when it finally became known as Sather & Company.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable conditions for launching such enterprises, a number of bankers embarked in business in 1858. Mark Brumagim & Company opened at 100 Montgomery Street; Bull, Baker & Company at 87 Front Street; Nicholas Luning at Sacramento and Leidesdorff streets; Pioche & Bayerque at Jackson and Montgomery streets, and John Sime & Company at Montgomery and Clay streets. In the same year Louis McLane succeeded Colonel Pardee as manager of Wells, Fargo & Company.

On March 25, 1859, a movement against the circulation of all foreign silver coins was launched by the bankers of the city. In the early days the scarcity of coins had led the banks to accept anything that bore a resemblance to money, but increasing business made this practice a nuisance, while the operations of the mint made it unnecessary. On May 9 a meeting of all the bankers in the city was held to fix and regulate the value of foreign coins. The scale of the mint was adopted, and this soon drove all the foreign coins into the melting pot.

There were few additions to the list of bankers in 1859. George Baker and Alpheus Bull dissolved partnership, Baker remaining in control of the business at 87 Front Street, while Bull, in the following year, opened a bank at the northwest corner of Clay and Front streets. Belloc Freres, a wealthy French firm, opened a banking house at 147 Clay Street. In 1860 Reynolds, Reis & Company engaged in the banking business at 428 Montgomery Street, while the firm of Fretz, Ralston & Company became known as Donohoe, Ralston & Company.

The decade closed with the following banks in San Francisco: Alsop & Company; Banks & Davis; Belloc Freres; Mark Brumagim & Company; Alpheus Bull; B. Davidson; Donohoe, Ralston & Company; Abel Guy; Henry Hentsch; Nicholas Luning; Parrott & Company; Pioche & Bayerque; Reynolds, Reis & Company; L. E. Ritter; Sather & Church; John Sime & Company; Tallant & Wilde, and Wells, Fargo & Company.

Judging from the number of changes in the twelve years of San Francisco's banking history, the vicissitudes of the business must have been many and difficult to meet in those days. Of all the firms enumerated, most of them had existed but two or three years at the most, and only four of them are recognized as pioneer bankers. At that time B. Davidson, Sather & Church, Tallant & Wilde, and Wells, Fargo & Company had a history that extended back ten years or more.

All the large institutions of the first part of the decade had disappeared. The head of Wells, Fargo & Company was in the East, living the secluded life of a confirmed invalid. James King of William had become a martyr to his civic virtues. Page, Bacon & Company had made a disastrous, if honest, failure. Adams & Company and Palmer, Cook & Company had made failures that brought disgrace to the officers of the institutions as well as on the servants of the people. Lucas, Turner & Company had retired after meeting its obligations in full, while its manager, General William T. Sherman, was preparing for those deeds of valor and generalship that afterward brought him an undying fame. General Henry M. Naglee, a pioneer banker, was also about to join in the great conflict between the North and the South.

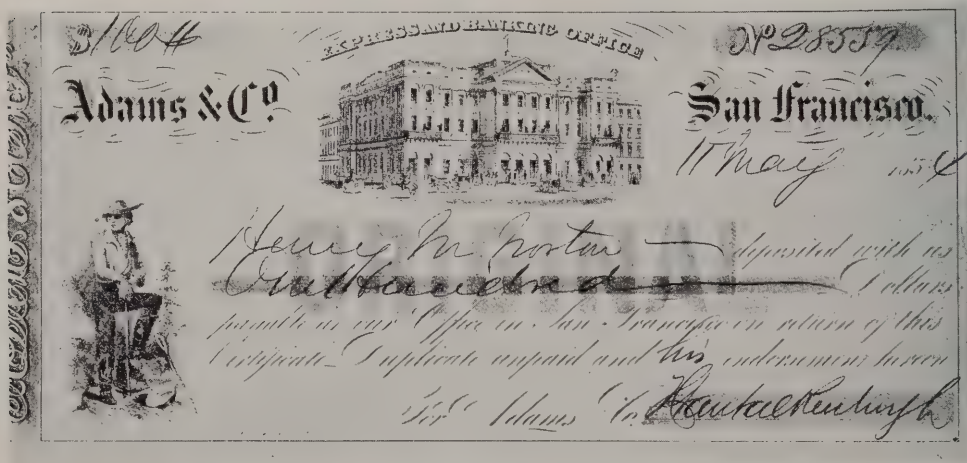
But the decade closed with better banks and better banking methods than San Francisco had yet enjoyed, and for nearly twenty years depositors were secure from the losses such as previous years had visited upon them.

A careful search of the advertising columns of San Francisco newspapers from 1850 to 1860 reveals the following names:

B. Davidson & Company.
Gansl & Cullen.
John Sime & Company.
First National Gold Bank.
Drexel, Sather & Church.
National Gold Bank and Trust Company.
Merchants Exchange Bank.
John H. Plume & Company.
James King of William & Company.
Donohoe, Fretz & Ralston.
Fretz & Ralston.
Belloc Freres.
Bank of British Columbia.
Donohoe, Kelly & Company.
George C. Hickox & Company.
F. Argenti & Company.
Tallant & Wilde.
London and San Francisco Bank, Ltd.
Burgoyne & Company.
Adams & Company.
San Francisco Savings Bank.
Lucas, Turner & Company.
Carothers, Anderson & Company.
Bank of California.
Parrott & Company.
Pacific Bank.
Page, Bacon & Company.
Hentsch & Berton.
City Bank.
Savings Bank.
Palmer, Cook & Company.
Miners Exchange & Savings Bank.
Savings Bank of California.
Eugene Delessert, Ligeron & Company.
Wells & Company.
Savings Bank and Exchange.
Dodge & Company.
Pacific Loan and Security Bank.
Duncans Bank.
Wells, Fargo & Company.

And the San Francisco *Bulletin* of November 5, 1857, published the following table of banks and bankers, with the date of their beginning, the date of the ending of those that had passed into history, with the capital of each, so far as known, and the final record as it stood at that date:

Name	*Opened*	*Closed*	*Capital*	*Result*
Roach & Woodworth	1849	1850	Unknown	Withdrawn
E. Dunbar	1849	1850	Unknown	Failed
Miners' Bank	1849	1850	None	Failed
Robert A. Parker	1848	1849	Unknown	Failed
Naglee & Sinton	1849	1850	Unknown	Dissolved
H. M. Naglee	1850	1851	Unknown	Failed—afterwards paid up
Bagley & Sinton	1850	1851	Unknown	Failed
Simmons, Hutchinson & Co	1849	1850	None	Failed, $200,000
Wells & Co	1849	1851	Unknown	Failed—paid 37½ cents
Burgoyne & Co	1849	1855	Unknown	Failed
J. P. Manrow	1849	1851	Unknown	Withdrawn
B. Baldwin	1850	1852	Unknown	Killed
Argenti & Co	1850	1855	Eastern credit	Failed
S. Beebe & Co	1850	1851	Eastern credit	Withdrawn
B. Davidson & Co	1850	....	Unknown	Now open
Adams & Co	1850	1855	Eastern credit	Failed, $1,557,000
James King of William	1850	1854	Unknown	Transferred to Adams & Co.
Delessert, Cordier & Co	1850	1856	Unknown	Withdrawn
Page, Bacon & Co	1851	1855	Eastern credit	Failed
Sanders & Brenham	1851	1855	$2,500	Failed
Palmer, Cook & Co. (Now J. C. Palmer)	1851	....	Unknown	Now open
Tallant & Wilde	1852	....	Unknown	Now open
J. R. Robinson & Co. (savings)	1852	1855	None	Failed
Wells, Fargo & Co. of New York	1852	....	$600,000	Now open
Pioche, Bayerque & Co	1852	....	Unknown	Now open
Abel Guy	1852	....	Unknown	Now open
L. E. Ritter	1852	....	Unknown	Now open
Carothers, Anderson & Co	1852	1854	None	Failed
John Perry, Jr	1852	1856	None	Failed
Rising, Caselli & Co	1852	1853	Unknown	Failed
Drexel, Sather & Church	1853	....	Unknown	Failed
Lucas, Turner & Co	1853	1857	Eastern credit	Withdrawn
A. S. Wright (savings)	1853	1855	None	Failed
Marriott & Wheeler (savings)	1853	1856	None	Failed
Henry Hentsch	1855	....	Unknown	Now open
John Parrott & Co	1855	....	Unknown	Now open
Garrison, Morgan, Fretz & Ralston (Now Fretz & Ralston)	1855	....	Now unknown	Now open
C. P. Stone	1856	1857	Unknown	Failed



ISSUED BY HISTORIC PIONEER BANKING FIRMS

Name	*Opened*	*Closed*	*Capital*	*Result*
Bull & Banks	1857	....	Unknown	New
Henry Bainbridge	1857	....	Unknown	New
Samuel Brannan (savings)	1857	....	$450,000	New

Twenty failures out of forty-two banks, and in only three cases out of the twenty were any dividends realized to their creditors.

Of the strictly local institutions, the firm of Sanders & Brenham was founded by Beverly C. Sanders, afterward Collector of the Port, and Charles J. Brenham, the second Mayor of San Francisco. William Burgoyne, head of the house that bore his name, was a member of the first Board of Aldermen elected under the city charter. Drury J. Tallant and James King of William were members of the first Board of Commissioners of the funded debt, a very important body in the early history of the city and state. Beverly C. Sanders was also president of the San Francisco Gas Company from November, 1852, when it was organized. Judge Wilde, who was at one time a partner of Tallant, died a few years after his retirement. Frank G. Smith retired from the banking business to practice law. J. B. Cavalier, one of the founders and the first president of the San Francisco Stock Exchange, was a clerk for F. Argenti & Company, the pioneer French bankers. J. V. Plume was the active manager of Burgoyne & Company. The heads of the subsequent house of Bull & Banks were clerks for Wells, Fargo & Company in the early '50s.

CHAPTER III

EARLY-DAY BANK FAILURES

Failure of Wells & Company in 1851—Story of initial success as told in letters of Thomas Wells—Ruin followed fire of 1851—A pioneer banker of integrity—Financial panic of 1855—Failure of Page, Bacon & Company—Account of the failure of Adams & Company—Statement of A. A. Cohen.

THE TECHNICAL credit men of the present day would hardly know as bankers any of the financial institutions of the early fifties, or those that preceded them. There was, of course, no bank examination. The solidity of an establishment depended wholly upon the rectitude of the banker. Thomas Wells started the most successful bank of his day with practically no money at all. James King of William found the good opinion of his fellow Argonauts his chiefest capital. Not one in ten of them could have passed any sort of bank examination as that term is understood today.

And yet their failures, when failures came, were rarely due to dishonesty. Considering the swiftness of the times one can hardly charge the failures to imprudence or incapacity. In a day when real estate values were doubled over night—and that was by no means an unknown condition—a banker might be excused for an extension of credit which proved unfortunate.

In spite of what may seem a lawless condition, common justice must concede to early San Francisco a pretty high general average of probity. Population was increasing by more than a thousand a day. And it must be that the general level of character was good or financial chaos must have been the result, instead of the uniform rule of order.

Gold dust was received at its market value and exchange issued on Eastern correspondents. Deposits were accepted at a good rate of interest and loans made at a most usurious rate. During the first two years of banking in this city the rate varied from 8 to 15 per cent a month, depending on the responsibility of the borrower. The profits from the banking business were enormous, and not only could capital be doubled in a year, but banking houses were built up in a few months from practically nothing to flourishing institutions.

But if the profits of the business were great, the hazards were equally enormous. In a little more than six months the city was swept by three fires, taking several of the banking institutions with them. The first occurred on December 14, 1849, the second on May 4, 1850, and the third on June 14, 1851. While the treasure was usually saved, the books and papers were nearly always destroyed. It is recounted how one institution, that lost even its gold dust, recovered a part of its resources by employing miners to pan out the ashes and debris.

Few banks, however, in this period suffered greatly from the loss of property for the reason that the buildings covered by mortgage were rebuilt within a few weeks and the security again became sound. The loss of business was felt more seriously than the loss of property in all these fires; but if there was a final loss resulting from any venture, the enormous profits on the successful investments quickly recouped the loser.

Although it was forced to assign in 1851, the most successful banking house of 1849 and 1850 was Wells & Company. As its history was very similar to that of other institutions of its period, a detailed account of its existence will be given as an illustration of banking methods in San Francisco during the first two years of the city's financial development.

Thomas G. Wells, the founder of the institution, came from New England, where he had engaged unsuccessfully in the printing and publishing business. In the latter part of 1848 he organized in the southern part of New Hampshire the Cheshire Company, an association of nine persons who agreed to share equally until November 1, 1850, the profits of their California enterprise. Upon their arrival at San Francisco in July, 1849, all the members of the party, with the exception of Mr. Wells, set off for the mines, while he remained in this city to establish a bank, a project that he had in mind before leaving home. His brother-in-

law, Hamilton Willis, was head of the banking firm of Willis & Company of Boston, and this relative loaned him a small sum for the enterprise. However, Wells later admitted that he began with practically nothing.

During the second week in August, 1849, Wells established an office at a location that has been lost to history, but it probably fronted on the plaza, as it is referred to as "facing on the square." The room (for there was but one) was fifteen by eighteen feet in dimensions and contained a counter on which Wells slept at night and over which he transacted a banking business during office hours. The rent of this establishment was $300 a month. He also cooked his breakfast in the same room, so it served a triple purpose.

The history of Wells's banking house is told very well in a collection of letters written by him to his wife and business associates at the time. The following, written under the date of August, 1849, is the first reference to the progress of his banking business:

"My office has been open for a fortnight, and on Saturday night I settled up my accounts for the two weeks and found I had considerably more than made my expenses, large as they are; and this I think very well indeed for a beginning, as I have had everything to do myself, being an entire stranger, and having acquaintances and friends to make; also when you consider that nearly all the bill and draft business is put off to the last week of the month before the steamer for Panama, and that I have already engaged drafts for different parties to be drawn before the steamer sails, which will pay me about $800 clear profit, and I have no doubt of drawing a good many more."

In the following month Wells moved into more commodious quarters in a part of the town better adapted to the banking business. His new establishment was at Montgomery and Clay streets, and it still consisted of one room. Two berths, shut off from the main office by a screen, served as beds for Wells and his sole clerk, the latter being a new acquisition to the bank. The banking business sixty years ago must have been more strenuous than it is now, for it is recounted that the proprietor and the clerk worked from 5:30 in the morning until 9 o'clock at night.

Of his new place of business, Wells wrote on September 25:

"I am already doing a very respectable banking business, many of the best merchants here depositing their funds with me, as with a bank at home, and drawing checks as they make payments, on my office. My deposits of the last week of this nature have been from $30,000 to $40,000. I have also made arrangements to receive monthly by the steamers from Mexico, a large amount of specie for the purchase of gold dust, which is to be remitted to the Rothschilds of London for account of the Mexican banking house of Drocina & Company. The first shipment of $40,000 I received by the last steamer and am now purchasing gold with it, for which I charge a handsome commission."

In October, Captain Greene, an acquaintance of Wells, abandoned the mines and returned to San Francisco, where he was placed in charge of the gold dust scales by the banker. In the latter part of November the Cheshire Company was dissolved, Wells paying each member $2000 in cash and a note of $1000 to release him from his engagements with them.

Wells continued to prosper, and on December 28, 1849, wrote:

"I think I do not flatter myself when I say that my banking house now stands the first in San Francisco, both in point of respectability and means. I arrived here with comparatively nothing, but now I have all the capital I want, and this has been done simply by securing the confidence of the public by my manner of doing business, which I certainly have aimed to make highminded and honorable. The consequence is that the deposits of money flow in upon me from all quarters, both for use and safekeeping, and my banking business is greater than that of any two other houses in the city, my deposits on the 1st of December amounting to $132,000, and it is now much larger, as I open two or three accounts almost every day. All my plans for business operations have proved eminently successful, particularly my arrangements for receiving money from Mexico and investing it in gold dust on Mexican account, which gives me a controlling influence in the gold market here. I have really in these few months accomplished the work of years for any other position or any other country."

As Wells, unknown and with comparatively no capital, engaged in business in August and found himself with deposits amounting to $132,000 on the 1st of December, his boast is not without some foundation.

Up to this time Wells had been sole proprietor of the banking house, but on December 29, 1849, a Mr. Skinner arrived from Boston with a proposal from Willis & Company, Wells's Boston correspondents. After some negotiations, during which the banking possibilities of Sacramento were investigated, it was agreed that Willis & Company should put up $50,000 capital, enter the firm as a silent partner, and receive one-half the profits. This arrangement was entered into on January 1, 1850, and extended for one year. Skinner remained as the representative of Willis & Company, while the new firm assumed the title of Wells & Company.

Profitable as banking was, it could not have been so profitable as the hotel business, for about the beginning of the year 1850 Captain Greene left Wells & Company to manage the Ward House at a salary of $1000 a month, with board and room—the latter no inconsiderable item.

Upon the entrance of Skinner into the firm a room was fitted up over the banking office. This was occupied as a chamber by Wells and Skinner, while the two clerks continued to sleep in the office. The chamber was one of the most luxurious in the city, it being recounted that the floor was carpeted and the walls papered.

Evidently the new relations with Willis & Company were not perfectly harmonious, as is attested by a letter from Wells to Hamilton Willis, written on March 28, 1850. It is in part reproduced here because it undoubtedly gives the most clear and succinct account of banking at that period that any source of information could furnish. Wells said:

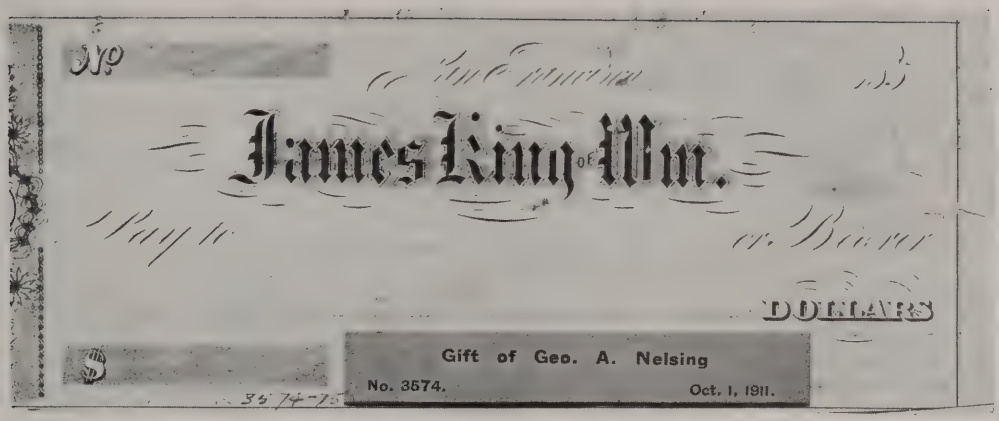
"I never should (as I wrote you in my last letter) have sent you exchange instead of dust from choice, but because I could procure no insurance which I had confidence in, and you say in your letter that three-quarters of the insurance here is not worth a straw, . . . I can not see that we differ much about business principles here, except in the matter of loaning money. I really think that money can be loaned here on short time as safely as in Boston. We have men of substance and means here and commercial houses of undoubted responsibility connected with some of the oldest and most respectable firms in the United States and Europe. Now, in the face of a drain of some $10,000,000 during the past winter of gold dust, almost our only currency, and a complete non-intercourse with the mines, and also when you consider the new and untried state of things here, does it appear strange to you that some of these houses should occasionally want a temporary loan? This has been the case and still is to some extent, and consequently, there being no banks here, they come to us and others and pay us a large rate of interest, but only corresponding to the price of everything else in this country, and they always back it with good security, at least when they get it from us. You remark that everything here, at least the value of everything, depends upon dust or gold. This is true. Therefore, I reason that there is real value in all kinds of property here, real as well as personal, because the most skeptical now are obliged to acknowledge that the supply of gold is inexhaustible, being, so far as has been explored, found in the bed of every river and the bowels of every mountain of Upper California, of course, more or less abundant in different localities. There is no danger of exhausting the supply of dust, and consequently on your own showing no danger of property of every description become valueless because it can not be carried away. Also we occasionally loan money on security which I think you would yourself approve of. For instance, we have today loaned $6000 at 10 per cent a month on a single lump of gold in its native state, weighing twenty-three pounds, and for which its present owner paid $10,000. This is a rare case, to be sure, but it is not rare to loan on security we consider equally sound. . . . We certainly intend to be very careful. . . . Without boasting, I think I can say that I do not need either your name or your capital or your credit to enable me to get along here, although perhaps I might be glad to be assisted by all three."

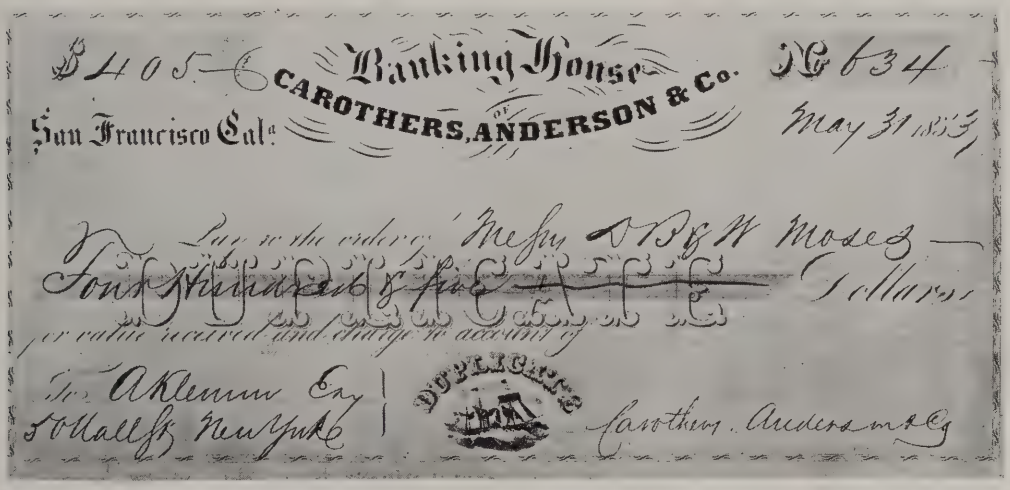
On May 4 Wells & Company had a second narrow escape from fire. On this occasion, as in December of the preceding year, the building was on fire several times, but the flames were extinguished before serious damage was sustained. Wells & Company lost no loans by reason of this fire, but Wells had a mortgage on his own account on a building that was destroyed. On June 14, however, the firm was not so fortunate. The fire broke out at 7:30 in the morning and in one hour the banking house was in flames. By 10 o'clock the extent of the fire had been estimated and by 11 o'clock another office had been rented by Wells. Everything had been saved except the office furniture, and these were valued at about $200. By 4 o'clock in the afternoon the carpenters were at work on the new office, and while they were putting in counters Wells & Company was paying out money and issuing bills of exchange.

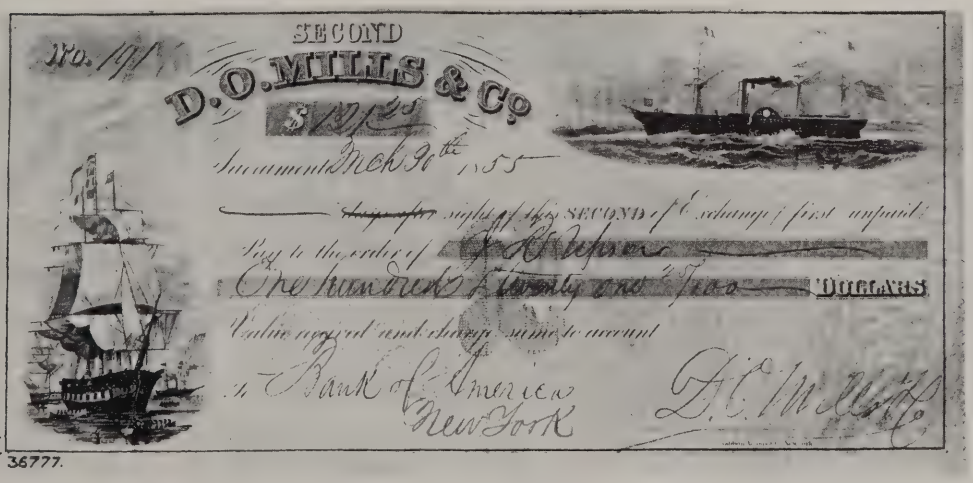
Before the close of the month the firm had bought the lot on which it was formerly situated at Clay and Montgomery streets, and had contracted for a fireproof building, the two to cost $116,000. The building was described at the time by a correspondent of the Boston *Courier* as follows: "The walls were brick two feet thick, the roof covered with cement a foot thick, the window shutters of bolted iron, and the wood frames at least eighteen inches inside the shutters." Of the same structure Wells wrote: "We have a beautiful banking room, certainly equal to any in Boston."

During July, 1850, the firm remitted $91,125 in gold dust to New York, $13,500 in dust and $3330 in quartz to London, drafts to the amount of $4440, and had drawn drafts for $92,089.66. It will be recalled that Wells started in business less than a year before, and had started with next to nothing.

Wells left San Francisco on August 15, 1850, for New York, reaching San Francisco again on January 8, 1851. He returned with his brother, Edwin R. Wells, afterward of the Sacramento banking firm of Beach, Wells & Company. He also returned with Chagres fever, from which he rapidly recovered.







IN THE STYLE OF THE FIFTIES

The fact that the business had suffered during his absence, and the friction between himself and Willis & Company, induced Wells to enter into negotiations for purchasing the interest of the silent partner in the firm of Wells & Company. Late in April, 1851, an arrangement was consummated whereby Skinner and Willis each retained a third interest in the building, while the bank passed entirely into the hands of Wells. Skinner returned East on May 1. Meantime E. R. Wells had become established in Sacramento, their commissions on the purchase of gold dust amounting to about $75 a day.

At that time Thomas Wells lived in the fourth story of his bank building, where he had fitted up a parlor, two bedrooms, and a kitchen. It was about the period that the first panic began to make itself felt in San Francisco. The depression was due to the deflation of realty values, the downward movement being accelerated by a fire that rendered improved and productive property unimproved and unproductive in a few hours.

The fire broke out on May 4, 1851, and the very confidence in the building of Wells & Company to withstand the flames rendered the losses greater. Merchants in the vicinity removed their merchandise from the inflammable structures they occupied, and piled it against the brick walls of the bank building. The iron shutters were barred and preparations made to fight the flames, people even moving jewelry and valuable papers into the building for greater safety. Wells, with several of his tenants and two of his clerks, remained as long as the heat would permit them, when they were driven out into the flames. Not one escaped unburned, and Wells was so seriously injured that he never wholly recovered.

Strong, the bookkeeper, had been working on the books late on the night of May 3, and for this reason they had not been placed in the vaults. These were burned, but the specie and gold dust that had been placed in the vaults were saved. Repairs were begun on the building at once under the superintendency of Edwin Wells, who came down from Sacramento, and the structure was again ready for occupancy late in June.

But the fire, with contributing causes, finished Wells & Company. Winter was the profitable season for bankers in those days. The miners being unable to work on account of high water, came to San Francisco with their dust, and it was largely at this season that the shipments were made by steamer. Wells & Company had just completed an expensive building and Wells himself had impaired his resources in buying out his partner. Distress from the panic was already making itself felt, and this was increased by the second fire of the year on June 2. Wells was a physical and nervous wreck from the losses and injuries he had sustained. This combination of unfortunate circumstances led to the assignment of Wells & Company, the strongest financial institution that had yet appeared in the city.

On September 30, 1851, Wells expressed his intention in a letter of closing his business, after stating that his health would not permit him to continue, adding that his losses amounted to $75,000. On October 2 he received notices that his bills of exchange had been protested by Willis & Company for non-acceptance. He suspended payment at once, and placed his bank in the hands of assignees. He reached New York in November, and although he lived for twenty-two years he never recovered his health nor peace of mind.

Regarding the assignment, the *Alta Californian* said:

> "Were it imprudence, were it rash speculation which had brought this about, the case would be different; but the fact that untoward fate had done it all is what has excited the utmost sympathy of the whole community."

The San Francisco correspondent of the *Atlas* said in regard to the failure:

> "Whatever may be the final issue of his business, no complaints are made against him by his creditors. He was a pioneer of banking in this city. His promptness, his scrupulous integrity, his urbanity, and public spirit have endeared him to the business population of this place."

The affairs of Wells & Company have been dwelt upon at this length because, if not the pioneer banking firm of the city, it was at least the largest and most responsible banking house of this pioneer period. The accounts of its transactions that remain are more detailed than have been preserved of any other early banking house. The character of its business was similar to that of other financial institutions of the period, and its history is a history of banking methods and practices in San Francisco during 1849 and 1850.

The house of Adams & Company was established here in 1850, at first as an express company, and it was not until a year or two later that it added a department for

banking. When it did so it became, next to Page, Bacon & Company, the most important banking house in San Francisco. The local house was a branch of Adams & Company, express forwarders, with headquarters in Boston. The head of the concern was Alvin Adams, and in 1849 he sent Daniel H. Haskell to this city to establish a branch.

At first the company connected with Freeman & Company at Sacramento for the northern mines, and with Newell & Company at Stockton for the southern mines. Adams & Company soon absorbed the other two, and established agencies in every town and mining camp in the state. A careful system of assays was made to determine the fineness of the gold from various districts of the state, and the firm was largely instrumental in promoting the issuance of a private coinage to pay for the dust it bought, although it circulated no mintage of its own.

Both Page, Bacon & Company and Adams & Company occupied quarters in the Parrott block, at the northwest corner of California and Montgomery streets, and it is likely that the location of these two houses first definitely fixed the center of the financial district of San Francisco. The building, which is in use today, was the first structure of its kind in the city, and by far the most imposing at that date. It was erected by John Parrott, who had acquired an immense fortune in Mexico.

Through an oversight in failing to publish its shipments of treasure on "steamer day" as it had been accustomed to do, Adams & Company was subject to a serious run, beginning on the evening of January 17, 1854, and continuing all the next day. About 1000 small depositors took alarm and at the hour of closing business on the 18th, $416,000 had been paid out. When it became known that the bank had made its usual shipment of treasure and that it was still able to meet all demands, confidence was restored, and on the succeeding day a sum was redeposited greater than had been withdrawn.

Later in the same year, the Eastern house of Adams & Company was reorganized as a joint stock company, while Daniel H. Haskell and Isaiah C. Woods were made general partners of the California house, Alvin Adams becoming a special partner. James King of William was employed as cashier at a salary of $1000 a month. He had just previously discontinued his banking house owing to a lack of funds. He had made heavy advances to General John C. Fremont, who used the funds to purchase the vast Mariposa estate of B. L. Alvarado, who held the property as a grant from the United States. When King entered the employ of Adams & Company that house also agreed to take over his assets and assume his liabilities.

In January, 1855, the parent house of Page, Bacon & Company in St. Louis, which was seriously embarrassed through loans made to the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, endeavored to save itself by sending one of the partners to San Francisco to forward all the gold he could raise. The St. Louis house failed while the partner was in this city raising funds, but the news was delayed through the detention of the mail steamer and about $2,000,000 in gold was shipped East in ignorance of the fact that the St. Louis house had suspended.

The mail steamer arrived on February 17, 1855, and the news with it. This was the beginning of the most serious financial panic that San Francisco has ever suffered.

It is said that Henry Haight could have tided over the panic and prevented the disaster had he been willing. He was heavily interested in the institution, but when the condition was made known to him he is reported to have replied that nothing could save the banks and that all of them must succumb to the run that the ill news started. Joseph L. Folsom and John Parrott, both of whom were able and inclined to lend aid, refused to endorse the obligations of the bank when Haight's attitude was reported to them.

The bank owed about $2,000,000 and paid out $600,000 the first day after the arrival of the mail steamer. The run continued until February 22. On that morning Page, Bacon & Company sent a printed notice to the principal business houses of the city stating that for "want of coin" they found it necessary to close their doors. All the other banks remained open during the holiday.

The next morning, February 23, 1855, the height of the panic was reached. That morning an attorney for Adams & Company had called on (General) William T. Sherman, then manager of the bank of Lucas, Turner & Company, and informed him that Adams & Company would not open that day. The failure of this institution to open its doors brought the community to a paroxysm of excitement and fear, and the day was long referred to in San Francisco as Black Friday.

Men fought like mad in the counting rooms and bank offices and it was nearly impossible for the sound institutions to pay out funds, owing to the disorder that prevailed. In the banking house of Lucas, Turner & Company, a Frenchman who had fought his way to the counter, received his money and, not knowing what to do with it, exclaimed to the teller: "If you got the money I no want him, but if you no got him I want him like the devil!" Many persons re-deposited before the close of business that night.

Adams & Company and Page, Bacon & Company, Wright & Company and Robinson & Company were forced to close. Wright & Company, it will be recalled, had established the Miners Bank on the Plaza as early as 1848, while Robinson & Company had started a small savings bank at Clay and Montgomery streets in 1852 or 1853. Their depositors were among the poorer classes and they naturally suffered the worst from the run.

All the other banks, including the larger houses of Lucas, Turner & Company and Palmer, Cook & Company, were able to weather the storm, although some of them were quite seriously crippled.

The failure of Page, Bacon & Company was palliated by the public for there seemed to be reasonable cause for the suspension in the failure of the Eastern house. Moreover, the San Francisco house paid out all the funds it had. But the failure of Adams & Company, which involved the largest number of people and the greatest losses, brought forth charges of actual and deliberate fraud against the original partners and nearly every one else connected with the house.

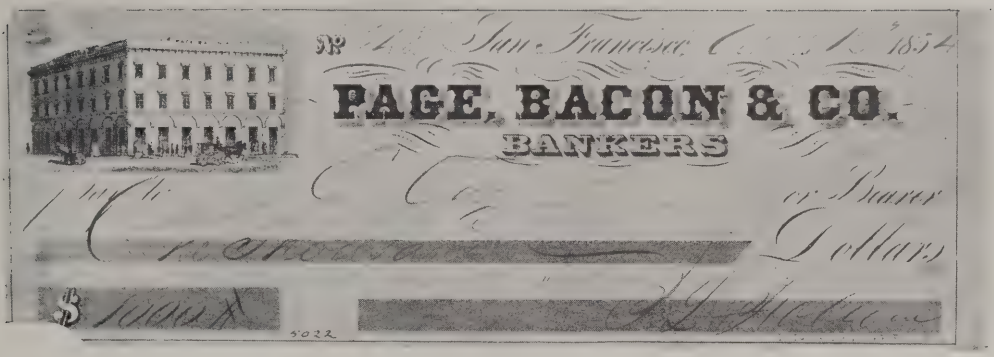
Adams & Company had closed its doors with a large sum of money and a considerable quantity of bullion on hand, but most of this was spent in subsequent attempts to despoil the depositors. The plan of the failure was commenced by a collusive suit in the Fourth District Court wherein Adams was made a plaintiff against Woods and Haskell as defendants for a dissolution of the partnership, and the appointment of Alfred A. Cohen as receiver to take charge of the property. This action took place early on the morning of February 23, before the opening of the bank, which, at 10 o'clock was in the hands of a receiver. The night succeeding his appointment as receiver, Cohen removed all the coin and bullion from the vaults of Adams & Company in the Montgomery block, at the corner of Washington Street, to those of Alsop & Company, commission merchants, on the south side of California Street, between Montgomery and Sansome.

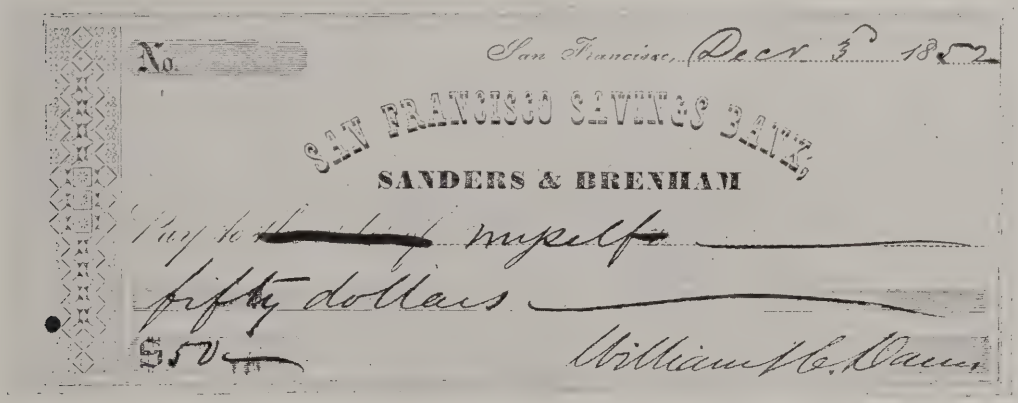
Cohen's attempts to seize the cash of the branch houses throughout the state failed in most instances. Committees of depositors, with the aid of officers of the law, took possession of the branches, distributing the assets among the resident creditors. At Sonora the vaults were broken open and the money and dust found, amounting to $40,000, were paid out to creditors by a committee of citizens on the presentation of certificates of deposit or other evidences of authenticated claims.

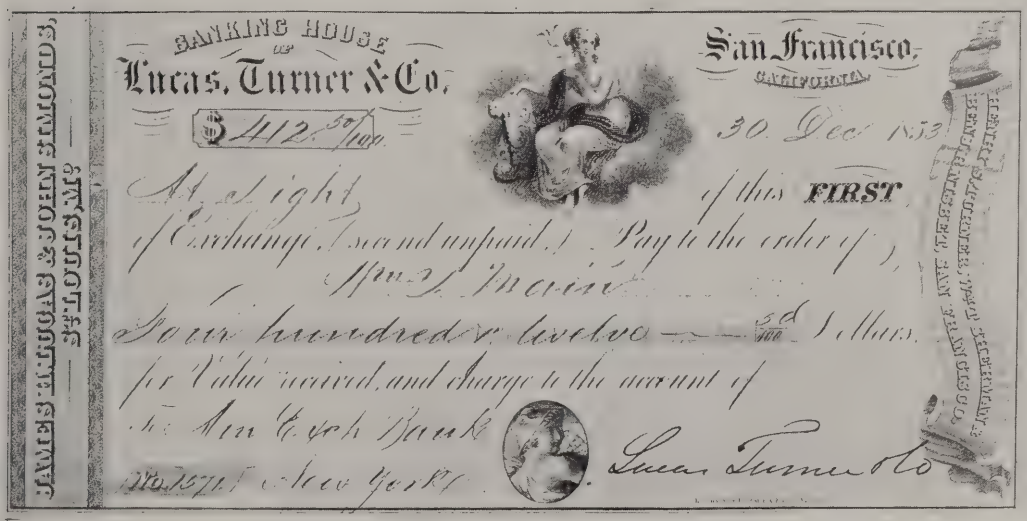
Within a week after the appointment of Cohen as receiver, attachments sufficient to exhaust all the funds in his hands were served upon him. Woods, on behalf of the three partners, then made an application in insolvency, asking that the funds, instead of being taken under the attachments, be administered for the benefit of all creditors. The order was granted and Cohen was named temporary assignee. At a subsequent meeting of the creditors, Cohen, Roman and Edward Jones were named permanent assignees. Thereupon, the assignees took over all the assets, and the money and bullion was removed to the vaults of Palmer, Cook & Company, on the northwest corner of Kearny and Washington streets. Cohen was then discharged as receiver, and departed for New York, leaving the assets in the hands of Jones, his co-assignee and a member of the firm of Palmer, Cook & Company.

Delos Lake, the judge who had issued the order of insolvency, resigned, and his successor, John S. Hager, held that a bank could not go into insolvency. He therefore declared the proceedings in insolvency void, removed Cohen as receiver and appointed Henry M. Naglee in his place. Cohen returned from New York, and Naglee began suit against the co-assignees, obtaining a judgment against them for $269,000, the supposed amount of the assets in their hands.

The assignees refused to turn over the assets to the receiver, who had them cited for contempt. On January 5, 1856, Cohen made an effort to leave the state and concealed himself in the hold of the Nicaragua steamer, *Uncle Sam,* which was about to leave for San Juan de Sur. He was detected, and a warrant for his arrest was placed in the hands of Deputy Sheriff John Harrison, who secured the person of the fugitive.







SOME TRANSACTIONS OF THE EARLY FIFTIES

Jones was also arrested for disobeying the order of the court, but he purged himself of contempt by giving up the assets in his keeping.

Cohen refused to give up certain funds of the bank, and also claimed the right to retain $10,000 as commissions. This the court refused to allow, and Cohen was detained in prison, although Jones was released. February 27, 1856, during the height of the controversy which was engaging public attention, two workmen discovered in the bay a canvas bag containing several large account books, which had been washed ashore at North Beach, near the foot of Montgomery Street. An examination disclosed that they were the books of Adams & Company, including the last ledger and cash book. The pages containing the entries for February 21 and 22, 1855, had been removed.

It was quite generally charged that Cohen threw the books into the bay to hide his transactions, but this was never proven. Meantime, several petitions were pending before the Supreme Court for his release, but they could not be heard for the reason that the court then consisted of only three members, one of whom was outside the state, while Terry, a second member, was in the hands of the Vigilance Committee for having plunged his bowie-knife into the body of S. A. Hopkins.

As soon as Terry was able to ascend the bench, Cohen was released. Then began a general scramble for the assets, which lasted for seven or eight years, and that resulted in Palmer, Cook & Company getting most of them, again manifesting the truth of the adage that possession is nine points of the law. Palmer, Cook & Company was not originally a creditor to any great extent, but it brought forward a claim of $560,000. For years the stigma followed this banking house as well as Isaiah C. Woods, the managing partner of Adams & Company, and it was largely this bitterness that gave rise to and added strength to the vigilante movement. The litigation finally came to an end because there were no assets that would make litigation worth while.

Both in the interests of fairness to a man who has played a large part in the activities of California, and in the interests of history as well, place should here be given to Mr. Cohen's own side of the story. Writing in the year 1888, Mr. Cohen says:

"I find from papers in my possession that on the morning of the 17th of February, 1855, the steamer *Oregon* arrived from Panama, bringing the statement that the drafts drawn by the bank of Page, Bacon & Company of St. Louis on Duncan Sherman & Company had been protested. At this time Page, Bacon & Company were the principal bankers of California. A run was immediately started on their bank, which lasted all day, but all demands were fully met. The next day being Sunday, the banks did not open. On Monday the excitement seemed to be allayed, and there was very little demand made by depositors. It was supposed that the bank was beyond danger and would be able to meet its engagements. Naturally, the depositors of other banks took the alarm, and a great many drew out their money; but no apprehension was entertained that there would be any serious trouble.

"On the 22nd of February, which was not then a holiday, it was evident that a quiet run was being made on all the banks of San Francisco. I did not entertain any apprehension that any one of them would be forced to close, or was in serious danger; and so, at the close of business on the 22nd, I went to my home not expecting any trouble. Late that night I was aroused by my servant. I dressed and went down stairs, and found a messenger connected with the bank of Adams & Company. He told me there was a meeting of gentlemen then being held at the office of Halleck, Peachy, Billings & Park, and that my presence there was requested immediately.

"I proceeded with him to the building known as the Montgomery Block. I found that the meeting had adjourned to the office of Janes, Doyle & Barber, a noted and eminent firm of lawyers in those days. I found in that office that all the clerks were at work drawing papers, and the nature and object of the meeting were soon explained to me by the gentlemen there present, among whom I remember Frederick Billings; L. C. Woods, the managing partner of Adams & Company; Eugene Casserly; James P. Flint, then the leading member of the firm of Flint, Peabody & Company, and his son, P. B. Flint; Mr. Janes, Mr. Doyle, and no doubt there were many others whose names I do not now recall. I should say here that I had then been in California about five years and at this time I was then between twenty-five and twenty-six years of age. I had been doing up to that time some business in buying and selling merchandise and buying and selling real estate, and had succeeded so as to have acquired a moderate fortune and a good financial position.

"I was informed by the gentlemen then present that there had been so much of a run on Adams & Company that they were short of coin; and while they felt themselves to be entirely solvent, yet, until they could collect their moneys from their interior offices, where it had been sent to purchase gold dust, which was then the form of remittance, usually made to New York and England from California, they did not feel that it would be safe or proper for them to resume business on the next day; and that, as Page, Bacon & Company had already placed their affairs in the hands of a receiver, they felt that they ought to do the same; and it was stated to me that they desired that I would act as such receiver for them, provided the court, to whom the application was about to be made, would appoint me. I declined this offer emphatically, and pointed out to them that my age and experience did not warrant me in assuming so great responsibilities, and I thought it would not give satisfaction to the creditors. I was then assured by Mr. Woods and by his counsel that this would not be by any means a dissolution of the bank or a surrender of its business, but that within

forty-eight hours they would be able to gather their assets, without doubt, and resume payment, and I would then be released. It was then getting very near daylight on the morning of the 23rd of February, and if the receiver was not appointed before the bank opened, its property would all be taken by the attachment and suit of the most diligent creditors, and entail a great deal of expense.

"Finding that no one was willing to take the position, and relying upon the assurances that the affairs of the bank were in such condition that the suspension would be but temporary, I consented to take the appointment. An application was then made to the Honorable Delos Lake, Judge of the Fourth District Court, and he consented to appoint me, and fixed the bond as receiver at $1,000,000. This bond was immediately given and approved by the Judge, and I entered upon the performance of my duties as receiver.

"It was then suggested to me that as the news of this failure would come very suddenly upon the public, and as, in view of the then excitable character of our population, an attack might be made upon the banking house of Adams & Company, and its funds carried away, I had better remove from the vaults of the bank all the coin, gold dust, and other things of value, and deposit them at another place. This advice was especially urged upon me by H. P. Janes, who was then one of the leaders of the San Francisco bar, and a man of very high character, and also by Eugene Casserly, afterwards Senator from this state, and by J. P. Flint. I saw no objection to this course, and agreed to it. The keeper of the vault, the man who had the combination, was sent for. I took him into my employ and directed him to make a list of such things as were in the vault, except the bills payable, and to remove them and deposit them in the vault of Alsop & Company, then private bankers of great responsibility, Mr. Janes and myself having in the meantime seen a member of the firm who lived on the banking premises, and who consented to accept the custody of these deposits. The time at our disposal was so short that the money, which consisted to a great extent of silver, was not counted, nor was the gold dust weighed; and from this omission a great deal of trouble afterwards arose, though an account was taken by two employees of the bank before any disposition whatever was made of these funds or any part of them.

"The announcement of the failure of Adams & Company was made before the opening of business on the morning of the 23rd of February, 1855, and the bank, which was then situated in the Montgomery Block at the corner of Montgomery and Washington streets, was soon surrounded by an angry and threatening mob of creditors, who demanded payment of their various claims. I do not remember how many offices throughout the state Adams & Company had, but they were numerous, and I think there must have been over forty. The scenes in San Francisco were repeated around every one of these offices. I am very well satisfied that Adams & Company could have paid all their debts if the courts and their officers would have permitted the receiver to do so. The firm had done a very profitable business on this Coast, and so far as I now remember had not made any material losses; but it had an army of creditors in every county of the state.

"Doing an express business, as well as a banking business, it received moneys on deposit in small amounts and issued its certificates therefor, which, in the absence of paper money, were largely used in transmitting money through the interior, and in making payments in localities distant from banking facilities. Every one of these express offices had a portion of the capital of the parent office sent to it to buy gold dust from the miners, in addition to buying gold dust to be sent to the mint, or to some private assay office in San Francisco to be assayed and coined, and the returns to be made to the shipper. So that the business of Adams & Company was considerably scattered, and involved more detail than that of the business of an ordinary bank.

"In those days we were without railroads, and excepting to one or two points, without telegraphic communication. All the interior towns were reached from the head of navigation of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, by stages. So that, when I undertook to perform my duties as receiver, I found it difficult to communicate with the agents of the company at these various points, or to hear from them. Some few of the offices with which communication was had sent to me the moneys and gold dust they had on hand; but the amount received was small in comparison with the total assets. I saw, a few days after my appointment, that the anticipations of Adams & Company and their counsel would not be realized. The creditors in the interior had proceeded immediately on the knowledge of the suspension to attach whatever they could get, and the Sheriffs and Constables had broken open the vaults and safes of the company and had taken away in every case much more than sufficient to pay the amount covered by the writs of attachment in their hands. I have in my mind cases where the original demand would be less than $25, but the costs would be four times that amount; and it soon became evident to me that from this cause alone, what was supposed to be a temporary suspension would prove a very disastrous failure.

"The interior courts would not assist the Fourth District Court in providing for equitable distribution of the assets. They summoned Sheriffs and Constables of different counties to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt in interfering with the possession of the receiver, but the result to the estate in dollars and cents was nothing. Judgments were obtained by default on mere service upon the agent. While these judgments might undoubtedly have ben set aside if taken in time, yet they were paid before we had any chance to move. A large portion of the certificates and claims being within the jurisdiction of a Justice of the Peace, proceedings were somewhat more than summary. Many of the offices in the interior had been lending money and held bills receivable and open accounts. The debtors when sued, bought up the paper of Adams & Company, which was then at a considerable discount, and offered to pay in that way. I do not remember any case of any suit brought where we were enabled to collect the amount of the judgment in coin.

"It seemed to me then, and does now, that all the forms of law for the proper disposition of the estate and assets of a debtor among his creditors were abolished, and none but the most diligent and their attorneys and officers employed for the collection of their debts were benefited.

"When I became convinced that the business of Adams & Company would not be resumed and that I must proceed with the performance of my duties as receiver, I had an examination made of the books which had come to me from the San Francisco office. I then found that the money which I had received

was not so much as the books of the bank showed should have been there; and this was another one of the troubles that I had to encounter. It turned out that when the stoppage of the business of the bank had been resolved upon, and before I was notified of the fact, a large amount of gold dust and coin had been removed from the office of Adams & Company to the private assay office of Kellogg, Hewston & Company, and the gold dust which had been received from the interior on the evening of the 22nd of February had also been taken to the same place. I inquired as to the meaning of this proceeding, and demanded that the property should be deposited with me; but I found that prior to my demand it had been dissipated, and I was advised by my counsel that the property was beyond recovery.

"As I have said before, Adams & Company received at their various offices in their capacity as express agents, gold dust to be sent to the mint, or to a private assay office, to coin, and the proceeds to be returned to the shipper. Their mode of returning the coin to the shipper had been to direct the shipping office to pay the net result to the shipper; but the coin which they really received from the mint or assay office went into their general funds at San Francisco. This was very well so long as the agent at the other end of the line had money enough to satisfy the trust, but if he had not, then the manager in San Francisco, who had used the money, would become liable for a criminal conversion. It was to avoid this responsibility that this money was taken from the San Francisco funds and used to pay the shippers of gold dust.

"Of course, they were entitled to have had the amount received from the mint or assay office kept specially apart for them and sent to them in precisely the same coin received from the mint on their account; but so long as the firm was solvent it was more convenient to settle with the shippers as the firm had been in the habit of doing. The firm of Adams & Company consisted, if I remember rightly, of Alvin Adams, Daniel H. Haskell, and Isaiah C. Woods. Woods was the only one in California. Adams lived in Boston and Haskell was at that time somewhere in the Eastern states.

"When the full result of the disastrous failure was realized, of course there was an attempt made to fasten all the responsibility possible upon the man they thought something could be made out of, and so an attempt was made to hold me responsible for the amount that had been expended in the manner above described.

"When I found that this money had been taken from the funds of the bank before my appointment, and without my knowledge, I informed the court of the fact, and desired to be released from the office of receiver. I gave notice to the parties that I desired to withdraw, and got an order from the court directing them to show cause why a new receiver should not be appointed. About this time the attorneys of Adams & Company, finding that the affairs of the firm must be wound up, and not being able to get any one who would accept the office of receiver and give the necessary bonds, conceived the idea of settling the estate by a proceeding in bankruptcy, and for that purpose they filed the petition of the partners of the firm to have their estate administered under the provisions of the insolvent law.

"The court entertained the petition, and ordered under the provisions of the then law an election to be held by the creditors for the appointment of three assignees who should take charge of the estate and administer it. Upon this order being made I did not press my application to be discharged as receiver, knowing that if the assignees were appointed my accounting would take place, and in the ordinary course of affairs I would be discharged. The court appointed tellers, provided for the usual machinery of holding a legal election, and caused the same to be extensively advertised throughout the state; and the result of that election was that Richard Roman, Edward Jones, and myself were elected assignees by a very large vote.

"Immediately upon ascertaining the result of the election, I declined to qualify, and it was only at the request of the Judge and of various creditors, who claimed that the experience I had had as receiver would be of great benefit to the assignees of the estate, that I concluded to serve, with the understanding, which I had with the Judge, that I should have the privilege of being away for a reasonable time, since a majority of the assignees were competent under the law to perform the duties of the assignment; and with the further understanding that, whereas Mr. Jones, one of the assignees, was a member of the firm of Palmer, Cook & Company, we should be permitted under the order of court to constitute this firm of Palmer, Cook & Company the depository of the funds that came into our hands as such assignees.

"Previous to that time I had kept the funds of the estate with the agency of Rothschilds, both in general and special deposit. Immediately assignees were appointed under the order made by the court, I turned over to them all the moneys and property of every description I then had, and took receipts for the same. I then applied for and obtained an order from the court to be served on the attorneys of the various parties who had appeared in the action in which I had been appointed receiver, to show cause why I should not be permitted to pass my accounts, have my bonds cancelled, and be discharged as such receiver.

"On the hearing, the court made an order appointing William G. Wood, referee, to examine and state the account between myself and the estate of Adams & Company, which was accordingly done. Mr. Wood made his report, showing what I had received, what I had disbursed, what I had charged for my services as receiver, which was ten thousand dollars, according to stipulation entered into by the parties, and that I had fully and fairly accounted for everything that had come into my possession.

"Thereupon the court made an order accordingly, and directed that my bonds be cancelled and that I be discharged as receiver.

"In looking over the bills receivable which came into my possession as receiver, I found there was missing a note made by Trenor W. Park to the order of Adams & Company, for the sum of $10,000. I inquired for this note and found that on the night of the 22nd of February, before my appointment as receiver, and at the time the moneys and gold dust were removed from the vault of the assay office, Park had persuaded Mr. Robie, the keeper of the vault, to deliver this note to him, saying that he would take it for or on account of his fee.

"I demanded the return of this note, and as it was not delivered to me, I brought suit against Mr. Park to recover the note, or its value. During the time that I was receiver, Alvin Adams was represented by one Charles C. Bowman, as his attorney in fact, but after this suit was brought, Mr. Park went to Massachusetts, where Mr. Adams resided, and having persuaded him that his interests in California were

not being properly cared for, managed to have himself substituted as his attorney in fact in place of Bowman.

"After I had been discharged as receiver, Mr. Park returned to this state and gave notice to me and to the parties to the suit, on behalf of Adams, that he desired to show that I had not fully accounted for all the money I had received, and that I was indebted to the estate in a large amount. The case came up for hearing and was opposed by the attorneys for Haskell and Woods. The court had some doubt as to its power to make the order asked for, but I stated that so far as I was concerned I would not oppose the application, and that I desired it to appear that the order was granted with my consent; and I believe an order to that effect was entered and the matter was referred back to the same referee, William G. Wood. The parties all attended before Mr. Wood.

"The result of the hearing and argument before Mr. Wood was that he again reported to the court that I had fully and fairly accounted for all moneys I had received, and that after I had turned over the moneys to the assignees I had paid out certain sums which he reported should be allowed to me.

"After the election of the assignees in bankruptcy they brought suit against various debtors of Adams & Company, and, among others, against the firm of Barrett & Sherwood, who were indebted upon a promissory note. A defense was interposed that the assignees had no title to the note because Adams & Company, being bankers, neither they nor the members of the firm could take the benefit of the insolvent laws of the state. The Supreme Court sustained that view and held that the election of the assignees in bankruptcy was void and that they took no title to the assets of the firm, and rendered a judgment for the defendants. The decision made great confusion. The property was in the hands of the assignees for the benefit of the creditors, and the court held that they had no title to it. The receiver had passed his accounts and turned over the property to them, and he had no custody of it. And the result was that the creditors of Adams & Company then brought suit to attach all the funds which were then deposited in the banking house of Palmer, Cook & Company, and garnisheed all the debtors who owed money to the firm.

"The court then required me to take charge of the property as receiver, which I refused to do on the ground that I had been discharged as receiver and my bonds had been cancelled; that I had obeyed the order of the court, and that I should not be required to reassume my duties as receiver. I had only consented that my accounts should be reopened to enable anybody to show that I had not accounted for what I had received, or that I had received more than I had stated, and if the court wanted anybody to take charge of the property, it would have to appoint a new receiver.

"In August, 1855, I left the state for a short visit to New York and Philadelphia. I returned to the state somewhere, I think, about the last of October of that year. At that time it took the larger part of a month to make the transit each way, so that I remained in the Eastern states but a few weeks.

"During my absence, Judge Hager, who had been appointed to fill the place of Judge Lake, who had resigned, in the excess of his judicial zeal, made an order removing me as receiver, and then did what he had a perfect right to do, appointed Henry M. Naglee receiver of the assets of Adams & Company."

CHAPTER IV

EARLY SAVINGS BANKS

Opportunity for savings banks given by increased stability of population—The Accumulating Fund Association—First real savings bank the Savings and Loan Society in 1857—French Savings and Loan Society—Hibernia Savings and Loan Society—Act for incorporation of savings banks—First savings bank run—San Francisco Savings Union—Sam Brannan's bank and its successor, the Pacific Bank—German Savings and Loan Society—First savings bank statistics.

So long as California had been a mining state, the population required banks for convenience and not for accumulation. Few having any intention of remaining beyond the time required for the making of a fortune, savings were shipped East by mail steamer and banked in institutions of greater solidity and stability than existed at that time on this Coast. When, however, an agrarian population sprang up and it became evident that California was to be the home of a great people, institutions for the safe keeping of accumulations were demanded.

The times, however, were not propitious. The disastrous failures of commercial banks had weakened confidence in all financial institutions. Such securities as existed on the Coast were scarcely worthy of the name, an instance of this condition being furnished by the action of the Supreme Court in invalidating the entire state debt over and above $300,000. Moreover, there was no law under which a proper incorporation could be effected, and the doubt that attached to the legality of the acts of a savings bank incorporated under the general laws for the organization of mercantile and manufacturing concerns made recourse to this act of questionable advisability to say the least.

The first institution that partook of the nature of a savings bank was the San Francisco Accumulating Fund Association, incorporated April 27, 1854, under the general act governing corporations, approved April 14, 1853. It was half savings bank and half building and loan society, and was organized for a few years only, the design being to close its affairs when it had fulfilled its functions and obligations with respect to its various members. The existence of the institution is mentioned here chiefly because some of its members were responsible for the establishment of the first real savings bank in San Francisco—the Savings and Loan Society.

The officers of the institution were: E. W. Burr, president; Albert Miller, vice president; William F. Herrick, secretary. Burr afterwards became president of the Savings and Loan Society, and Herrick secretary, while Albert Miller became vice president of the San Francisco Savings Union.

The idea of establishing a savings bank was conceived by Burr and Herrick in the latter part of 1856, but the failures of the commercial banks of the year before and the unsettled condition remaining deferred the incorporation until the summer of 1857. It might have been deferred still longer had it not been for the fear that other institutions which were in course of organization would be the first in the field. One of these was the land bank of Samuel Brannan, which has already been referred to, but it attracted so few depositors that the scheme was soon abandoned for lack of business. Another was the announcement in the form of placards posted on the dead walls of the city, that a nephew of Phineas T. Barnum was about to establish a savings bank in San Francisco. The latter project also was abandoned, as this was the year that the great showman became bankrupt through an effort to manufacture clocks.

The Savings and Loan Society incorporated July 23, 1857, and began business in a room on the second floor at 171½ Washington Street. It had a carefully prepared table of loans, by-laws, etc., which were afterwards copied by other institutions. The first officers were: E. W. Burr, president; John Archbald, vice president; William F. Herrick, secretary. The first

semi-annual report of the institution announced with great satisfaction that the half-yearly deposits were $21,521.98, while $677.16 was announced as sufficient to pay a monthly dividend of 1½ per cent.

In two years the institution had so grown that it erected a three-story brick building at 167 Clay Street, having then a capital stock of $400,000. The first nine semi-annual reports show the deposits to have been $21,521.98, $31,886.48, $50,460.20, $70,697.55, $109,530.84, $189,721.60, $413,015.71, $1,052,869.34, and $1,939,703.70. Up to this time the growth of the Savings and Loan Society had been phenomenal.

The success of the Savings and Loan Society soon attracted competition, and less than a year after the incorporation of the first savings bank a second had been organized. The French Savings and Loan Society was incorporated July 12, 1858, with a place of business at 136 Washington Street, just a few doors from its rival. The second institution copied the table of loans and everything it could from the first, but was unable to imitate its success. The officers were: J. G. W. Schulte, president; Frederick Meyer, vice president; John Kohlmoos, secretary; N. Van Bergen, treasurer. The distinctly Germanic sound of these names failed to attract French depositors, and the institution soon retired, to be followed by a French savings bank that was French in its organization as well as in name.

The third savings bank to be organized, and the second permanent one, was The Hibernia Savings and Loan Society, which was incorporated April 12, 1859. The Celtic residents were not to be deterred by the failure of the Teutonic French, but a reference to the names of the organizers will disclose the fact that they were sailing under true colors. The first officers were: John Sullivan, president; John McHugh, vice president; John Mel, treasurer; Richard Tobin, attorney. Sullivan was soon succeeded by Miles D. Sweeny as president. No further changes took place until 1861, when Edward Martin became vice president and treasurer. The first place of business was at the northeast corner of Montgomery and Jackson streets, and the growth of the business was rapid, for in July, 1861, the semi-annual report showed that the institution, which was without capital stock, had $577,000 invested in mortgages on real estate.

January 29, 1860, the French Mutual Provident Savings and Loan Society was incorporated, and was organized for business February 12. The officers were: J. Claire, president; N. Larco, vice president; B. Davidson, treasurer. The bank had its place of business at 649 Sacramento Street, and prospered for many years. The California Building, Loan, and Savings Society, which was incorporated May 31, 1861, was the last institution of the kind to be organized under the act governing general corporations. The first officers were: Dr. P. J. Reilly, president; Daniel Murphy, treasurer; Thomas Mooney, secretary. In the course of a few years Mooney became president.

The deposits collected by these institutions, which had come to aggregate several million dollars, were invested almost exclusively in mortgages on San Francisco real estate. There were no United States government bonds on the Pacific Coast. The state bonds had only recently been revoted by the people after having been invalidated by the courts, and were still subject to some suspicion. Municipal and county securities were even less secure and were frequently issued without the proper formalities and legal safeguards. The value of corporation securities was too problematical to offer a sound investment for savings banks. The title to country real estate was usually defective. When little value attached to the land in the interior, sales were frequently made without a public record of the transaction, and titles were constantly being upset by the courts. The value of that property to which clear titles existed depended on the population of the state, and in the late fifties doubts still were entertained regarding the future of the state. No dependable export trade had sprung up, and the value of ranch property depended on the consumption at home. These conditions confined the investments of savings banks to real estate mortgages in San Francisco, a practice that has left its creditable mark on savings bank investments to this day.

It frequently became necessary for the savings banks to maintain actions at law for the recovery of loans, and to take title to real estate on judgments obtained. The improper incorporation of savings banks under a general incorporation law cast serious doubt on the legality of these proceedings, and a quiet movement took place for the enactment of legislation that would cloak such transactions with proper authority.

The first move to promote such legislation was made by the officers of the Savings and Loan Society. The public gained an inkling of their intentions, and immediately misinterpreted the purpose. The result was a run that began December 23, 1861, continuing into the first of the new year. Had the institution not been possessed of unusual stamina, it must have succumbed. As it was the society was nearly two years in fully recovering from the effects of the misconstruction that had been placed on the motives of its officials.

An act for the incorporation of savings banks became necessary, however, and several men who had in mind the establishment of a savings bank, took up the movement. They were aided by James A. Banks and a member of the State Senate. The legislators from the interior were opposed to a bill such as it was desired to enact, and it was doubtless due to the fact that the floods drove the Legislature from Sacramento to San Francisco in 1862 that the measure succeeded.

An "act to provide for the formation of corporations for the accumulation and investment of funds and savings" was finally passed, and approved April 11, 1862. It lacked many of the elements of a perfect instrument, but it at least gave a semblance of legality to the transactions of savings banks. It provided that minors and married women might carry accounts in their own names, a privilege that they had not previously enjoyed. Another of its provisions permitted the existing savings banks to reincorporate under the terms of the act without a complete reorganization. All took advantage of this provision at once.

The first corporation to organize under the new act was the San Francisco Savings Union, which was incorporated June 18, 1862. It began with a capital stock of $100,000, and established a place of business at 513 California Street. One of the provisions of its charter retired 20 per cent of the profits to a reserve fund. It was the first institution in the city to offer a higher rate of interest on term deposits. The first deposit was received August 8, and the first semi-annual report, covering the period to the close of business December 31, showed a net receipt of $84,977.82 on deposit account.

The first officers of the Savings Union were: James De Fremery, president; Albert Miller, vice president; John Archbald, secretary, and the following directors: Washington Bartlett, John P. Buckley, Thomas P. Bevans, Edward P. Flint, and Charles Pace.

Following the organization of the San Francisco Savings Union, more than four years elapsed before the incorporation of another savings bank, although the Pacific Accumulation Loan Company was incorporated under the savings bank act February 10, 1863. It was not, however, a savings bank, and its officers soon succeeded in having an amendment to the act passed which permitted savings banks having a capital stock of $300,000 or more to make loans without collateral security. At the time the amendment was passed it was the only bank in the state in a position to take advantage of the measure.

Samuel Brannan was the organizer of this institution, as he had been of the land bank, and it was the first institution on this Coast to adopt methods of business similar to those of the Credit Mobilier of Paris. The capital stock was $5,000,000, issued in shares of the par value of $1000 each, but so small a portion of this was subscribed or likely to be subscribed that the institution was soon reorganized with a capital stock of $1,000,000, the ten thousand shares being fully subscribed for. Although Brannan organized the bank, control soon passed to Peter H. Burnett, a pioneer of 1843, and the first elective Governor of California.

Upon the reorganization of the Pacific Accumulation Loan Company, the following officers were elected: Peter H. Burnett, president; George F. Bragg, vice president; Mark Brumagim, cashier; O. P. Sutton, secretary.

The directorate included some of the best known capitalists on the Coast, being composed of Samuel Brannan, J. W. Brumagim, Samuel J. Hensley, Joseph W. Winans, J. E. de la Montagnie, William R. Garrison, and Crestien Reis, in addition to the executive officers. Indeed, the institution was regarded as the strongest that had yet appeared on this Coast. It was at a subsequent period that R. H. McDonald, afterward president; J. M. McDonald, W. T. Wallace, and C. T. Ryland gained control of the stock. Soon after its incorporation the bank became known as the Pacific Bank, and its charter was amended to adopt this name.

In 1864, the French Provident Mutual Savings & Loan Society moved to 533 Commer-

cial Street, its officers then being: F. Moigneu, president; F. Berton, vice president; Camilio Martin, treasurer.

For several years previously San Francisco had had a number of savings and homestead associations, nearly every residential district having one in addition to the fraternal organization. In several instances the idea of establishing savings banks originated in the existence of these homestead societies. It was in this way that the Odd Fellows Savings Bank came to be incorporated, October 13, 1866. It began business at 325 Montgomery Street, and, having the support of a large and powerful fraternity, soon reached a condition of prosperity.

The Farmers & Mechanics Bank of Savings was incorporated June 20, 1867, with a capital stock of $150,000. It opened for business at 225 Sansome Street, with N. C. Fassett president and G. H. Wheeler cashier. About this time the Hibernia moved into new quarters at the northeast corner of Montgomery and Market streets, this being the first time that a bank had ventured outside what was then the financial district.

Up to this time what little trust business had developed in San Francisco had been cared for by the regular banks, but December 4, 1867, the California Trust Company, with a capital stock of $1,000,000 was incorporated. A place of business was established at 421 California Street, with Henry L. Davis, president, and De Witt C. Thompson, cashier.

The City Bank of Savings, Loan and Discount, was incorporated September 30, 1867, and organized for business October 14. Although it did a savings business, it was not generally regarded as a savings bank, and its reports were not included among them. It had a capital stock of $750,000, divided into seven thousand five hundred shares, and was established at 633 Sacramento Street. The first officers were: H. H. Cobb, president; Daniel Murphy, cashier; P. H. Kenny, secretary.

The German Savings and Loan Society was incorporated February 10, 1868, and organized for business in March. The capital stock was fixed at $200,000. The officers were: C. F. Mabius, president; G. Wetzlar, secretary. Among the first directors of the institution was Claus Spreckels, who was also one of the most active organizers.

Although the savings banks made regular semi-annual reports, no attempt to collect the figures in the aggregate seems to have been made prior to 1866. The six reports beginning with January of that year follow, including the figures for all the San Francisco savings banks:

Date	*Deposits*	*Earnings*	*Reserve*
January, 1866	$ 7,005,061	$306,061	$236,936
July, 1866	8,760,164	493,791	252,918
January, 1867	10,358,888	564,470	328,919
July, 1867	13,833,259	694,311	470,079
January, 1868	16,833,496	843,917	485,700
July, 1868	19,678,362	955,655	551,988

At the date of the last report there were 26,065 depositors.

At this time there were eight active savings banks in San Francisco, and three others had maintained savings departments. There were but four others in the state at the same period. They were the Sacramento Savings Bank, organized March 19, 1867; Stockton Savings and Loan Society, organized August 12, 1867; Oakland Bank of Savings, organized November 1, 1867, and the San Jose Bank of Savings, which had just come into existence. These comprised all the savings banks on the Pacific Coast.

The condition of the eleven banks reporting at the close of 1868, was as follows:

Name	*Depos'rs*	*Deposits*	*Loans*
Savings and Loan Society	4,550	$ 4,749,564	$ 4,638,458
Hibernia Savings and Loan Society	14,060	9,846,507	9,569,887
French Savings and Loan Society	3,800	3,308,209	3,495,678
Loan and Savings Society	1,900	809,023	782,324
San Francisco Savings Union	3,577	2,536,184	2,421,879
Odd Fellows Bank	739	503,041	497,788
Farmers and Mechanics	332	151,299	139,361
German Savings and Loan Society	935	448,681	476,135
Sacramento Savings Bank	1,648	820,936	663,563
Stockton Savings and Loan Society	561	433,448	328,065
Oakland Bank of Savings	511	221,640	151,740
Totals	32,613	$23,848,532	$23,164,878

California Building

But two other savings banks were incorporated during the decade, and they engaged in business so late that their transactions would not greatly affect these figures. The Masonic Savings and Loan Bank was incorporated November 4, 1869, and the Humboldt Savings and Loan Society November 24 of the same year. The next decade witnessed more liquidations than incorporations.

CHAPTER V

FINANCIAL FEATURES OF PIONEER DAYS

Banking profits and interest rates in pioneer days—Extensive dealings in exchange —Early bond issues—Business reaction of 1854-1855—General Sherman describes financial storm—Public finances of the early fifties—Municipal and state scrip— Excessive taxation of bankers and brokers—Nullification of state debt.

Although the deposits of the San Francisco banks were considerable in the early fifties, they were not of as much profit as the very high rates of interest would indicate. For on steamer days, the 13th and 28th of each month, the balance due depositors would run down to a mere nominal sum, and then would increase until the next steamer day. The banks could not make use of any considerable part of this balance for loans beyond the next steamer day, and the consequence was that they were limited almost entirely to their own money. For this, however, they obtained 3 per cent a month interest in 1853, the rate having declined from 10 per cent a month after the first mad rush of 1850. The risk, however, was correspondingly great owing to the uncertain conditions of business and the wide fluctuations in prices of all merchandise and of real estate. A favorite collateral for loans was the scrip issued by the city in sums of one hundred, five hundred, one thousand, and five thousand dollars, in payment for labor in improving the streets, by extending, sewering, and planking them. Loans were made on this paper at from fifty to sixty cents on the dollar, as no one doubted that they would be redeemed ultimately, or converted into city bonds. Real estate mortgages formed another common basis of loans.

The lumber dealers, most prominent of whom were Henry Meiggs and Neely, Thompson & Company, held many of these street improvement warrants, and used them freely as security for loans. Meiggs was a member of the city council and prominent in all the activities of the city. When he fled to South America, leaving behind him millions of dollars of debts, at the banks and elsewhere, it was discovered that large quantities of the scrip pledged by him as security for loans had been fraudulently issued, and were worthless. A series of failures resulted, involving most of the lumber dealers and many persons dealing in scrip.

The sale of bills of exchange was another source of great profit to the banks, though it was Sherman's observation that the profits were delusive, and if analyzed would have been found to be losses. The premium charged was 3 per cent, but out of this had to come 1¼ to 1½ per cent for freight on the bullion which was remitted to cover the exchange sold, 1⅛ for insurance, and the cost of boxing the bullion, etc. This would have been all very well if the gold dust or bars (refined by Kellogg & Humbert or E. Justh & Company, for at that time the United States Mint was not in operation) had yielded a profit, but oftentimes this was not the case, as was discovered when the reports of shipments were received. So that the exchange business was rather a losing than a gaining venture.

The manipulations of exchange, however, were rendered more intricate and interesting in the earlier years by the wide variance in the value of gold in different countries having dealings with San Francisco. In China, for example, pure gold was worth about fourteen dollars an ounce. The metal was not receivable in payment for import duties, and in fact, could not be used as currency in any shape, so that neither gold coin nor gold dust was available for remittances to China. Hence, it was the custom of the importers to remit gold to New York for investment in sterling bills on London. These bills were sent to London and placed to the credit of the firm in China from whom the merchandise had been received, who, on learning that the remittance had gone forward to their agents, would draw a six months sight bill for the amount, and sell this bill in China at the rate of four shillings and two pence or three pence per

dollar. As an instance of the profit thus gained by the importer, one merchant figured a gain of $34,434.44 on ten thousand ounces of gold thus remitted, whereas the loss on the same quantity sent direct to China would have been $15,600.

With money in demand at from 3 to 5 per cent a month on what was considered good security, it was but natural that the bankers of San Francisco should find small reason for investing in city or state bonds, yielding an interest of only 7 to 10 per cent a year, and these issues were, for the most part, absorbed by foreign capital.

At the close of 1852 the bonded indebtedness of San Francisco was $1,532,746, bearing 10 per cent per annum interest, and maturing in 1868. Although the interest was promptly met, and the entire tax list of the rapidly growing city was pledged for security, the bonds were selling at 90 to 91, at which price the yield on the investment was about 11 per cent.

The bonded indebtedness of the state was nearly $2,000,000, in various issues of different maturities, and for the most part bearing 7 per cent interest, though there was one issue of Indian war bonds of 1851 which bore 12 per cent interest. As showing the indifference of local capitalists to these securities, nineteen-twentieths of the bonds issued were payable in the City of New York.

In this connection a curious incident occurred at the beginning of 1853, which illustrates the leisurely methods of the times, and the general disregard of public credit. The financial agents of the State of California were Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Company of San Francisco, whose New York correspondent was the American Exchange Bank. On the first of January, 1853, when the coupons of the State of California bonds became due payment was refused by the American Exchange Bank for the reason that Palmer, Cook & Company had no credit balance, but were on the contrary some $1800 overdrawn. In this emergency the firm of Duncan, Sherman & Company intervened, advanced the amount to about $66,000 necessary to take up the coupons, and immediately wrote to the Governor and to the comptroller of California, explaining the matter, and requesting reimbursement. Just what motives actuated Duncan, Sherman & Company can only be guessed. The one assumed was the purely philanthropic desire to save the credit of the state. But the letter was so coldly superior, so laden with conscious virtue, that it irritated the officers of the state whom it was intended to please, and neither they nor the public at large, judging from the opinions of the newspapers, gave Duncan, Sherman & Company half the credit they deserved for a really timely and praiseworthy act. Indeed, it was nearly five months before reimbursement was made by the State Treasurer, and in the meantime the unfortunate New Yorkers had been accused of all sorts of motives, and reviled by the newspapers and even by the State Treasurer, until they had cause to regret most heartily a move which they themselves regarded as purely disinterested generosity.

It was even claimed, among other things, that the reason the coupons were not paid in the first place was the bankers in New York were engaged in a wicked conspiracy to discredit California and then buy up the bonds at a low price after creating a panic among the holders of them; and as another part of the plot, to discredit Messrs. Palmer, Cook & Company for political reasons, because partners in this banking house had "ever been the most uncompromising friend of Democracy," and had not only employed their personal influence, but had lavished their private funds without stint, in aid of the Democratic party. (Letter of State Treasurer S. A. Means to Hon. M. S. Latham, member of Congress.)

The tide of prosperity in San Francisco reached its highest point in 1853, and in the following year it ebbed as rapidly as it had risen. Believing in the indefinite continuance of flush times, merchants had overstocked their premises with goods, more houses were built than could be used, and in general there was a vast overstraining of business, which ultimately had its effect in a marked decline of prices, both of real estate and of merchandise. The depression was helped by the fact that the rainfall in the winter of 1853-54 was slight, and the quantity of gold produced therefore less than was anticipated. In the spring the rains were abundant, and helped in a measure to postpone the collapse of trade, but the final outcome was inevitable. At one time the markets were so glutted that several vessels were sent back to New York laden with the goods which had been brought from there. By midsummer more than three hundred of the thousand or so business buildings in the city were unoccupied. Dur-

ing the year there were filed seventy-seven petitions in bankruptcy, representing an aggregate of several million dollars of liabilities, and merely nominal assets.

The financial reaction continued to grow worse in the winter of 1854-55, the falling off in gold production being in part responsible. While the treasure yield in 1854 had been $64,000,000, in 1855 it had decreased to $59,000,000. Even more serious was the retarding of immigration. For although the incoming ships brought 29,000 people to California, the departures were 23,000, leaving a net gain of but 6000 for the year. Insolvencies numbered 197, with liabilities of over $8,000,000.

The banks must have suffered some losses by these numerous failures, but, curiously enough, the event that precipitated the financial panic was of Eastern origin. William Tecumseh Sherman, who was then at the head of the bank of Lucas, Turner & Company, in his "Memoirs" thus describes the financial storm, and his own part in it:

"Our financial condition on that day (February 22, 1855) was: Due depositors and demand certificates, $520,000; to meet which, we had in the vault—coin, $380,000; bullion, $75,000, and bills receivable, about $600,000. Of these, at least $100,000 were on demand, with stock collaterals. Therefore, for the extent of our business, we were stronger than the Bank of England, or any bank in New York City.

"Before daylight next morning our doorbell was rung, and I was called downstairs by E. Casserly, Esq. (an eminent lawyer of the day, since United States Senator), who informed me he had just come from the office of Adams & Company, to tell me that their affairs were in such condition that they would not open that morning at all; and that this, added to the suspension of Page, Bacon & Company, announced the day before, would surely cause a general run on all the banks. I informed him that I expected as much, and was prepared for it.

"In going down to the bank that morning, I found Montgomery Street full; but, punctually to the minute, the bank opened, and in rushed the crowd. As usual, the most noisy and clamorous were men and women who held small certificates; still, others with larger accounts were in the crowd, pushing forward for their balances. All were promptly met and paid. Several gentlemen of my acquaintance merely asked my word of honor that their money was safe, and went away. Others, who had large balances, and no immediate use for coin, gladly accepted gold bars, whereby we paid out the $75,000 of bullion, relieving the coin to that amount.

"Meantime, rumors from the street came pouring in that Wright & Company had failed; then Wells Fargo & Company; then Palmer, Cook & Company; and indeed, all, or nearly all, the banks of the city; and I was told that parties on the street were betting high, first that we would close our doors at 11 o'clock, then 12, and so on. But we did not, till the usual hour that night. We had paid every demand, and still had a respectable amount left.

"Toward the close of the day, some of our customers deposited, rather ostentatiously, small amounts, not aggregating more than $8,000 or $10,000. Bookkeepers and tellers were kept at work to write up the books, and these showed: Due depositors and certificates, about $125,000, for which remained of coin about $50,000.

"So great was the shock to public confidence, that men slept on their money, and would not loan it for 10 per cent a week, on any security whatever—even on mint certificates, which were as good as gold, and only required about ten days to be paid in coin by the United States Mint."

The year beginning 1855 was an unfortunate one in the banking history of California. The conviction that the old order had passed away was forced upon bankers, and out of the difficulties of that period a sounder system was developed.

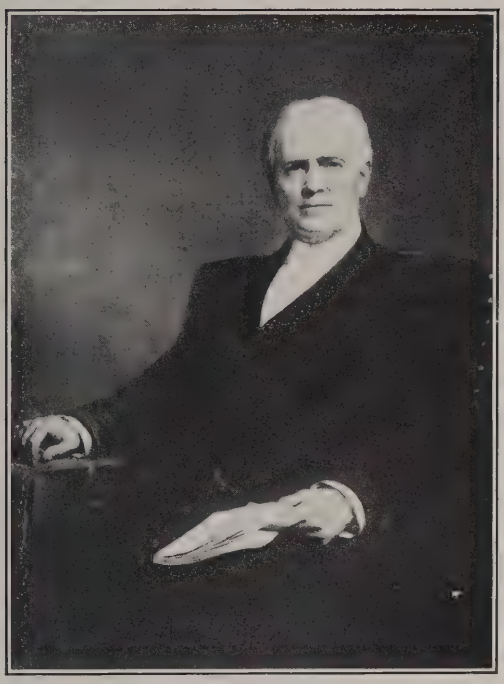
As the condition of the public finances during these years had a very important bearing on banking and finally led to an enactment that, had it been enforced, would have closed all the banks in the state, the subject is pertinent to this volume.

While the revenues of the city had been large, the expenditures had been greater. Public funds were wasted in sham improvements, and the thoroughly corrupt members of the city government appropriated to themselves the most extravagant salaries. In the nineteen months following August 1, 1849, the municipal expenditures had amounted to nearly $2,000,000, and the ordinary revenues were not half great enough to defray this sum. In order to satisfy public debts, the Council had issued scrip, bearing interest at the rate of 3 per cent a month.

As the municipality became further involved in debt, more scrip was issued, the interest piling up at an enormous rate. Some of the banks accepted this scrip, but it gradually became subject to a discount which increased until the paper circulated at from 30 to 50 per cent of its nominal value. The banks, once having established the value of the scrip, no one would accept it at its face value and the city was compelled to pay in scrip two or three times the value of services rendered or improvements made.

Meantime, the city officials were trafficking in the scrip to their profit. The Tax Collector refused to accept scrip on the ground that it was not matured, but he bought it with his private resources at 30 per cent of its face value and turned it into the city treasury at its full nominal value.

The municipality became practically bankrupt, and on March 1, 1851, the liabili-



EUGENE KELLY

Founders of the Pioneer
Banking Firm of
Donohoe, Kelly & Co.

JOSEPH A. DONOHOE

ties of the city were $1,099,557.56. In view of these conditions, the State Legislature, on May 1, 1851, passed an act "to authorize the funding of the floating debt of the City of San Francisco, and to provide for the payment of the same."

The Commissioners struggled along with the situation for a year or more, during which time they became involved with the Sheriff over the judgments obtained by the notorious Peter Smith. Much of the public land which would have been sold by the commissioners to defray the debt was sold to satisfy the Smith claims.

On May 4, 1852, the Legislature authorized the conversion of the floating debt of San Francisco into a 7 per cent stock, not to exceed in amount $400,000, the interest payable semi-annually and the principal to be redeemed any time within ten years after July 1, 1852. A new commission was appointed under the act, to serve until July 1, 1853, after which date the Board of Supervisors was given authority over the fund. A sinking fund was provided for, and the debt finally placed on such a financial basis that it could be handled by the bankers.

Meantime, the taxes were becoming almost unbearable, and it was estimated that every man, woman, and child in San Francisco paid a tax, directly and indirectly, of $55 during 1852.

The first attempt to fund the debt of the state was made on April 29, 1851, on which date the Legislature authorized bonds to the amount of $700,000 to be issued by the Treasurer in lieu of scrip or other evidences of obligations held against the state. One-half the bonds were to mature on March 1, 1855, and the other half on March 1, 1861, principal and interest being payable in New York. As the bonds bore interest at the rate of 7 per cent per annum, and the current rate for money in San Francisco at that time was about 30 per cent, they were necessarily floated in the East.

For many years after the organization of the State Legislature the bankers had little or no representation in, or influence with, that body. This was due to the fact that banking was chiefly centered in San Francisco, while the agricultural and mining interests were scattered throughout the state. This gave the latter a preponderating representation in the law-making body, with the result that they were, so far as possible, exempted from taxation, while the heaviest burdens were laid on San Francisco, and especially on the bankers of this city.

The financial interests did not openly complain or protest, however, until the passage of the State Revenue Act, which became effective on May 15, 1853. This was one of the most iniquitous measures ever put through the Legislature and was, in fact, so unreasonable that little effort was ever made to enforce its provisions. At the time of its passage, however, it created considerable consternation, and its enforcement would have destroyed the banking business and seriously injured shipping.

While the impost was denominated as a license, it was in reality a tax, being based on the amount of business transacted. The provision relating to banking defined a banker as "every person, association, or corporation engaged in buying or selling foreign or inland bills of exchange, loaning money at interest, buying or selling notes, bonds, or other evidences of indebtedness of private persons, or state, county, or city stocks, or stock of incorporated companies; in buying or selling gold dust, gold or silver bullion, gold or silver coin, keepers of savings banks, or engaged as common carriers in transmitting or conveying any of these things for profit; or engaged in receiving general or special deposits of gold dust, or gold or silver bullion or coin."

The act then provided that all those engaged in any of the foregoing occupations should provide themselves with a license upon the payment of 10 cents on each $100 of business estimated to be transacted by the applicant. The license was limited in effect to three months, and every person who failed to take out one was subject to a penalty of 100 per cent.

In order to resist the enforcement of the provisions of the act, a mass meeting of the financial and commercial interests was held in the Merchants' Exchange soon after the measure received the Governor's signature. A committee, composed of David Chambers of Page, Bacon & Company, E. M. Earl, and William Cook, was appointed to secure the opinions of the most eminent legal firms in the city on the constitutionality of the act.

On July 2, at another mass meeting in the same building, these opinions were received and ordered printed. They were given by the firms of Crockett & Page, Halleck, Peachy, Billings & Park, Read, Weller & Champlin, Baker & Stanly, Elisha Cook, Crittenden & Inge, Wells, Haight & Gary, and

Campbell, Taylor & Beckh. All the opinions stated that most of the provisions of the act were in violation of the Federal or the State constitutions and that the act imposed unreasonable hardships.

At the same meeting another committee was appointed to employ counsel to defend any actions brought to recover the license tax. Such actions were brought and carried to the Supreme Court of the state, which declared the act to be in harmony with the constitution. This decision in no way affected the determination of the merchants and bankers to resist the act, and another meeting was called for January 9, 1854, in the Merchants' Exchange to consider the effects of the decision.

At the meeting, which was presided over by Alfred Dewitt, resolutions were unanimously adopted condemning the objectionable features of the act as "flagrantly oppressive and unjust," and declaring that they would never be submitted to until all lawful means of resistance had been exhausted. The various counsel retained were instructed to move for a rehearing before the Supreme Court, and if necessary to prosecute appeals to the Supreme Court of the United States. A committee was appointed to prepare a memorial and lay it before the Legislature, praying that the act be repealed. At the same time subscriptions were raised to aid in carrying on the campaign, for it must be remembered that the act was not merely a hardship on the banking business in San Francisco, but it threatened the total extinction of banking.

While matters were in this unsatisfactory state and before the Supreme Court got around to consider the petitions for a rehearing, the Legislature repealed the obnoxious act, and passed a substitute measure which reduced the impost about one-half. The new act, which was approved May 15, 1854, provided for a license and not a tax based on the actual or estimated business transacted.

The new act provided in the first place that checks between parties within the state were not subject to the tax or license. Banking was then divided into two classes, known as brokerage and banking. Those who dealt in stocks or securities and who bought or sold gold dust as an occupation were classed as brokers, while those who issued bills of exchange or drafts were designated as bankers. The effect of the act was to bring nearly all the bankers under both classes and made them subject to the payment of two licenses.

Brokers were divided into five classes. Those who did a business of $250,000 a quarter were subject to a license of $100; over $200,000, to a license of $80; over $100,000, to a license of $40; over $50,000, to a license of $20; less than $50,000, to a license of $15.

Similarly, bankers doing a monthly business in excess of $500,000 were subject to a license of $100 a month; over $300,000, to a license of $60; over $200,000, to a license of $40; over $100,000, to a license of $20; less than $100,000, to a license of $15.

In addition to the burden of these imposts the legal status of banking in California had been very insecure from the time of the adoption of the State Constitution, and so continued for many years after that period. This condition arose from the same cause that led to the passage of the revenue act—an inadequate representation of the financial interests in the Legislature and the constitutional convention.

Section 34 of Article IV of the constitution of 1849 provided as follows:

> "The Legislature shall have no power to pass any act granting any charter for banking purposes; but associations may be formed, under general laws, for the deposit of gold and silver; but no association shall make, issue, or put in circulation any bill, check, ticket, certificate, promissory note, or other paper, or the paper of any bank, to circulate as money."

Section 35 of the same article provided that:

> "The Legislature of this state shall prohibit by law any person or persons, association, company, or corporation from exercising the privileges of banking, or creating paper to circulate as money."

The first Legislature of the state promptly obeyed the mandate of the constitution by inserting in the general act of April, 1850, governing corporations, the following section:

> "No corporation created, or to be created, shall, by any implication or construction, be deemed to possess the power of discounting bills, notes, or other evidences of debt, of receiving deposits, of buying gold or silver, bullion or foreign coins; of buying and selling bills of exchange, or of issuing bills, notes, or other evidences of debt, upon loans, or for circulation as money."

The effect of these provisions was, of course, to prevent state corporations from engaging in the banking business. All banking institutions were under private ownership, or controlled by associations or copartnerships. The provision relating to the

issuance of currency in any form was not strictly adhered to, with the result that a disobeyance of the section was made a felony by an act approved April 19, 1855.

A person or association violating the act was, on the first offense, to be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on the second, of a felony. Upon conviction for the first offense a maximum penalty of three months imprisonment in the county jail and fine of $2000 was provided; and upon conviction for each subsequent offense the minimum penalty was fixed at imprisonment in the state prison for one year, and the maximum penalty at five years.

These various constitutional and statutory provisions made corporate banking about as attractive as stage robbery. Afterward, banking was placed on a proper legal basis.

There was one other general legal question of the period that had a bearing on banking, and this was the nullification of the state debt. The constitution provided that the Legislature had no power to create a state debt in excess of $300,000, except in case of war or when the appropriation was to be devoted to some specific purpose. In the latter instance, the question of the expenditure was to be decided at a general election. The Legislature, in creating and funding the state debt had violated this article.

The question reached the Supreme Court in the form of two suits, the People *v.* Johnson, and Nouges *v.* Douglas, with the result that the entire state debt, over and above $300,000, was declared unconstitutional and void, the decisions being handed down in October, 1856, and January, 1857. Little or none of the debt had been taken up in this state, most of it having been subscribed in New York.

CHAPTER VI

PRIVATE COINAGE IN SAN FRANCISCO

Dearth of coin in 1849—Foreign coinage in circulation—Custom house refuses gold dust—Establishment of private mints—First government assayer—State assayer provided for—Private coinage forbidden—Partial catalogue of private coins.

One of the most interesting chapters in what should be the complete Financial California is the story of currency in actual use, in the time between the discovery of gold and the establishment of a branch of the United States mint in this city. At the beginning the supply of coin of any sort was very limited. There had been enough for the ordinary transactions of a mission and its environs and for the modest uses of such traders as had located at Yerba Buena, but the supply was not sufficient to take care of the greatly increased commerce which came in 1849. True, not every man arrived here penniless, but it is also true that most of them brought very little money. There was plenty of gold dust from the beginning, and its value was fairly fixed and established. But gold dust would not be accepted at the custom house, and the discrimination against it there affected its value everywhere.

There were coins of other countries. The German, French, English, and Spanish silver money was in circulation, and for a long time at values which made its use very profitable. A five-franc piece of France was as good as a dollar. A franc was a quarter dollar. Other coins commanded equally advantageous exchange into American money. The greatest gain was in Spanish and Mexican coins. And it was not until long afterward, when the more plentiful currency relieved the situation, that merchants adopted a rule holding the foreign coins to their actual value.

The bankers, it is pleasing to record, very early realized the importance of paying for foreign coinage just what the foreign coinage was worth. It was a part of the prudent business-like system which has uniformly guided the operations of California bankers.

The refusal of the custom house authorities to receive gold dust in payment of duties, at any valuation, additionally reduced the volume of current money. July 27, 1848, a letter was written to the military Governor, whose word was law even in the custom house, requesting that he make some concession in favor of the holders of gold dust. The letter was signed by Walter Colton, Talbot H. Green, J. S. Ruckle, Thomas O. Larkin, C. Wooster, Milton Little, J. Spence, and Jose Abigo—some of their names still preserved in the geography and the history of San Francisco.

The headquarters of the Tenth Military Department were then at Monterey, a more important station than San Francisco at the time. And Governor Mason, in replying to the request of the San Francisco business men on July 28, 1848, said: "I have no hesitation in saying if the California grain gold, now in such abundant quantity in this country, can be wrought into convenient shape, so as to answer as a substitute for gold and silver coin, I will order it to be received at the custom house in payment of duties at its intrinsic value."

That was all the merchants could ask, and their already established assayers, of whom there were several, began immediately the manufacture of coins and ingots of various but positive value, and a great many of these found their way to the coffers of the custom house.

In a very few days Governor Mason seems to have discovered that his concession was of doubtful legality, and on August 8 he revoked the permission he had previously granted. In view of the mighty events impending, it is curious to note that Congress on August 6, 1846, had enacted the law which forbade the receiving of anything but gold and silver in payment of duties to the United States. If the Congressmen voting for that bill had foreseen the situation which was to arise in California two years later, it can hardly be expected they would have enacted that prohibition, necessary as some regulation must have been in

view of the many worthless bank issues of paper throughout the United States.

The permission granted by the Governor in July had relieved the commercial situation of San Francisco very materially. Much duty had been paid, and a vast quantity of merchandise had been liberated and placed on sale. A relieved condition obtained in the rising city. The revocation of that permission operated, consequently, with increased severity; and on September 9 a great public meeting was held on the plaza, the double purpose of which was to find some substitute for gold dust that would be acceptable by the government, and to fix on a value per ounce of the dust itself. The meeting was attended by miners as well as by merchants and the public generally. The business men, bankers among them, held that $16 an ounce was a fair price. The miners protested they should receive more. They pointed out that California gold dust and nuggets, just as they came from the mines, were worth at least $18 an ounce at the mint in Philadelphia, but the cost of carriage with insurance against attendant risks was considered to at least equal the difference of $2 an ounce; and the price of $16 was permanently fixed.

That does not mean that every ounce of gold sold in San Francisco or elsewhere in the state brought $16. Many a dealer found miners over-anxious to realize on their accumulations, and bought the dust at half the market price. There are plenty of instances on record all the way from Montgomery Street to the mines where $5 an ounce was accepted. Brokers, meeting the miners at the boat as they came from the interior, found abundant methods to trade with them at advantageous figures.

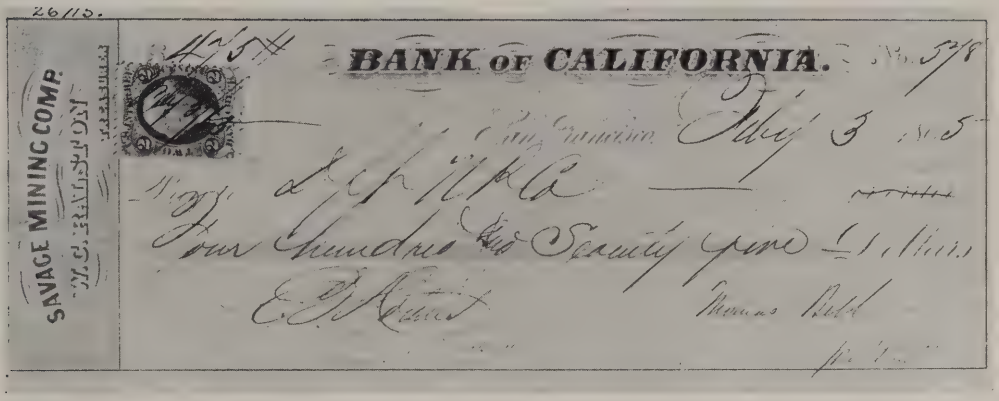
But while this was going on, coinage was progressing rapidly. An octagonal slug, valued at $50, had been very generally circulated and had found its way to the custom house. The *Alta Californian* on May 21, 1849, says: "A $5 gold coin has been struck at Benicia City, though the imprint is San Francisco." This coin bore the private stamp of Norris, Gregg & Norris. It is very rare. Moffat & Company, favored among San Francisco assayers, were doing an assaying and gold brokerage business during the summer of 1849, and issued octangular ingots of gold which passed current in place of the circular coins. And late in July or early in August a circular $10 gold piece appeared, bearing their private stamp, the first of that denomination to be struck in California.

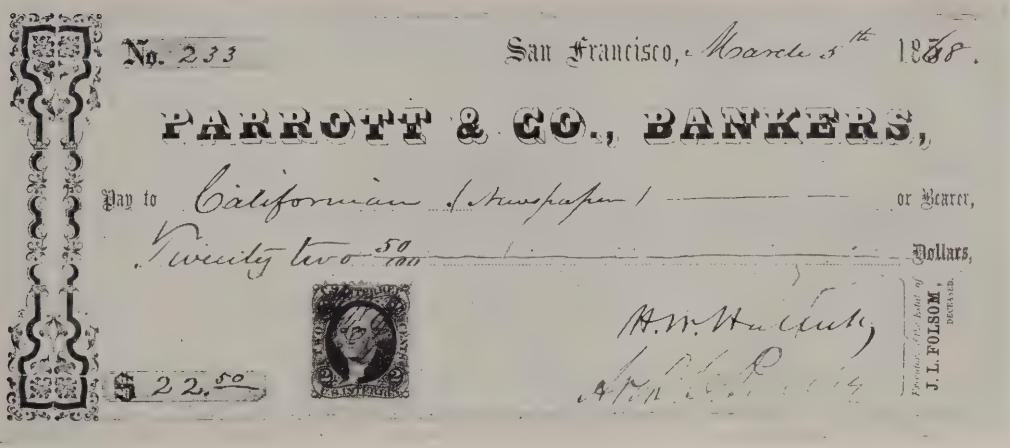
The closing months of 1849 saw a perfect avalanche of private gold. It came in response to that demand for a circulating medium which had been so severe. Every big company coming from the East brought machinery for coining. Their issues were of greatly varying value, and bore interesting and original devices. Some followed the types of regular coinage so closely that careful scrutiny was required to distinguish them.

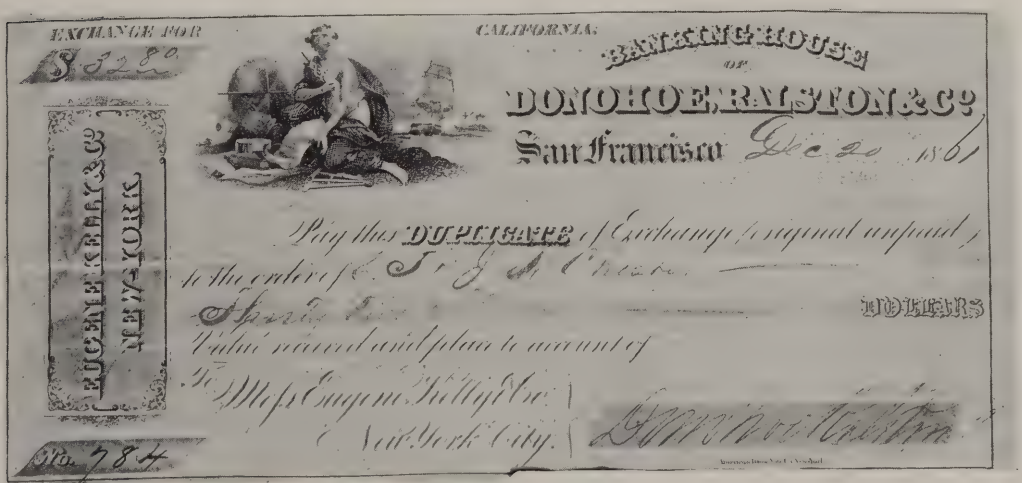
It is appropriate to make the historical note that one of the most distinguished figures in the early political life of the State, David C. Broderick, was for a short time associated with one of these early coinage enterprises, his muscular frame awarding him the function of swinging a sledge hammer above dies which patterned the slugs which went forth as coins. This was in 1849. His subsequent active political career and his death in a duel with David S. Terry in 1859 have remained an outstanding feature of early California history.

It is probable that scores of criminal cases, involving counterfeiting, might have been successfully prosecuted, but it is not of record that a single case of that sort was begun. The questionable coins were in time sifted out because of short weight, while those of Moffat & Company were received without question. Two new companies arose—Baldwin & Company and Du Bosq & Company, and these challenged with more or less success the favor of the public.

In the meantime as a partial solution of the problem confronting commerce, as well as banking, in California, the national government had been prevailed upon to provide an authorized assayer for San Francisco, and named Augustus Humbert of Philadelphia as such officer. The commission was authorized by an act of Congress approved September 30, 1850, and Mr. Humbert was attached to the establishment of Moffat & Company. This firm also succeeded in closing a contract with the national government to discharge many of the duties of a mint, and at once abandoned their private business, finding their time fully occupied with government work. On April 8, 1850, a resolution of the new California Legislature forbade the stamping or impressing on gold less than four ounces troy weight," and declared the violator of that rule to be guilty of a misdemeanor. On April 20 of


26115.
SAVAGE MINING COMP.
BANK OF CALIFORNIA.
No. 5348
Four Hundred & Seventy five


No. 233
San Francisco, March 1st 1868.
PARROTT & CO., BANKERS,
Pay to Californian Newspaper or Bearer,
Twenty two 50/100 Dollars,
$ 22.50
J. L. FOLSOM, Secretary.


EXCHANGE FOR
$ 328.
CALIFORNIA
BANKING HOUSE
OF
DONOHOE, RALSTON & Co.
San Francisco Dec 20 1861
DOLLARS
ROCHE, KERR & Co.
NEW YORK
No. 784

the same year the office of State Assayer was established by law, and again the making of coins by an unauthorized person was forbidden, under serious penalty. Members of the Legislature seem to have recognized the fact that an old or private coin already was in circulation, and a loophole for escape was provided by giving the firm uttering the coin permission to redeem it at its face value with legalized coin of the United States.

Frederick B. Kohler began operations as coiner for the United States under Mr. Humbert's direction on February 1, 1851, and the State assay office was discontinued at that time. But necessity knows no law, and it is interesting to note that Baldwin & Company are creditably declared to have produced more than half a million of gold coin from January to April, 1851. In that period the output of the new United States assay office was $530,000, of Du Bosq & Company $150,000, Schultz & Company $93,000, and Moffit & Company—not for private issue, $89,000.

A description of the coins produced in California in those hurrying days is very interesting. From the "Catalogue of Coins, Tokens and Medals in the Numismatic Collection of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia," issued under the direction of the Bureau of the Mint, the following description is taken:

Baldwin & Company, San Francisco, California.

1602. 10 Dollars, 1850. Obv. CALIFORNIA GOLD. A cowboy, mounted, to right, casting lasso; below, 1850 and TEN DOLLARS. Beneath the horse, on ground, GARDNER the engraver. Rev. BALDWIN & CO. An eagle, with expanded wings, a shield on breast, grasping olive branch in right, and three arrows in left talon; below . . . SAN FRANCISCO . . . Size, 17; wt., 263.8 grs.

1603. 5 Dollars, 1850. Obv. Bust of Liberty to left, with diadem inscribed BALDWIN & CO.; around thirteen stars, and the date beneath the bust. Rev. S. M. V. CALIFORNIA GOLD. Eagle as No. 1602; below FIVE DOL. Size, 14; wt., 132.5 grs.

Cincinnati Mining and Trading Company, San Francisco, California.

1604. 10 Dollars, 1849. Obv. CINCINNATI MINING & TRADING COMPANY. Draped bust of an Indian chief, with feather crown, to left. Rev. CALIFORNIA TEN DOLLARS. An eagle, flying, to left, carrying in talons shield of U. S. and branch of olive; below, 1849. Edge, reeded. Size, 18; wt., 258.3 grs.

1605. 5 Dollars, 1849. Similar to No. 1604, but with FIVE DOLLARS in legend on the reverse. Size 15; wt., 132.5 grs.

August Humbert, Assayer, San Francisco, California.

1606. 50 Dollars, 1851. Octagonal. Obv. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. An eagle standing upon a rock, grasping a shield and three arrows in talons of right foot, three arrows in the left; in beak, a scroll inscribed LIBERTY; above, 887 THOUS.; below, FIFTY DOLLS.; the whole within a circle; without the circle, AUGUSTUS-HUMBERT-UNITED-STATES-ASSAYER-OF GOLD-CALIFORNIA-1851 on the eight sides of the piece. Rev. Concentric circles, within engine turning. Edge, reeded. Size, 26, 28; wt., 1,310 grs.

1607. 50 Dollars, 1851. Octagonal. Obv. Type similar to No. 1606, but with 880 THOUS., and mark of value, 50 D. C. border beaded. Rev. Engine turned rays. Edge, AUGUSTUS-HUMBERT-UNITED-STATES-ASSAYER-OF GOLD-CALIFORNIA-1851, on the eight sides. Size, 26, 28; wt., 1,320 grs.

1608. 10 Dollars, 1852. Obv. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. Eagle as on No. 1606; above the eagle, 884 THOUS.; below, TEN DOLS. Rev. on a tablet, across the field, AUGUSTUS HUMBERT / UNITED STATES ASSAYER / OF GOLD / CALIFORNIA / 1852; above and below, engine turning. Size, 17½; wt., 263 grs.

Kellogg & Company, San Francisco, California.

1609. 20 Dollars, 1854. Obv. Head of Liberty, similar to that on the regular issue of the Double-Eagle of that date; on the diadem, KELLOGG & CO.; around, thirteen stars, and the date beneath the head. Rev. SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA. An eagle similar to that on the Double-Eagle, No. 533, but the motto omitted from the scroll; below, TWENTY D. Edge, reeded. Size, 22; wt., 515.7 grs.

Massachusetts & California Mining Company.

1610. 5 Dollars, undated. Obv. Arms; Shield, bearing mounted cowboy, supported by stag and bear; beneath a scroll inscribed ALTA; around thirteen stars. Rev. MASSACHUSETTS & CALIFORNIA CO. The value, FIVE / D., within a wreath. Size, 14; wt., 115.2 grs.

Miners Bank, San Francisco, California.

1611. 10 Dollars, undated. Obv. CALIFORNIA. Eagle similar to No. 1602; below thirteen stars. Rev. MINERS BANK. * SAN FRANCISCO. * In the field, TEN D. Edge, reeded. Size, 13; wt., 213.2 grs.

Moffat & Company, San Francisco, California

1612. 20 Dollars, 1853. Obv. Head of Liberty, as No. 1609, with diadem inscribed MOFFAT & CO. below, 1853. Rev. similar to 1609. Size, 21½; wt., 516 grs.

1613. 20 Dollars, 1853. Similar to No. 1612. Size, 21½; wt., 516 grs.

1614. 16-dollar bar, undated. Obv. MOFFAT & CO. / 20¾ CARAT / $16.00 in three lines. Rev. Plain. Size, 9 by 22; wt., 444 grs. Pl. VIII, 7.

1615. Bar of $9.45 value, undated. Obv. MOFFAT & CO. / 21 7/16 CARAT / $9.45. Rev. 10 DWT. 6 GRS. Size, 9 by 19½; wt., 245.2 grs.

1616. 10 Dollars, 1849. Obv. Head of Liberty to left, as on Eagle of U. S. of same date; on diadem, MOFFAT & CO. Rev. similar to No. 1602, with TEN D. beneath the Eagle. Edge, reeded. Size, 17; wt., 129.2 grs.

1617. 5 Dollars, 1850. Legends and types similar to No. 1616 but with FIVE DOL. beneath the eagle, on reverse. Size, 14; wt., 129.2 grs.

Norris, Grieg & Norris, San Francisco, California.

1618. 5 Dollars, 1849. Obv. CALIFORNIA GOLD. An eagle bearing on breast a shield, on which is mark of value, 5; below, WITHOUT ALLOY. Rev. within a circle of stars, 1849, and above the date, N. G. & N.; beneath SAN FRANCISCO; above the circle of stars, FULL WEIGHT OF; below, HALF EAGLE. Size, 14; wt., 130.2 grs. Plain edge.

1619. 5 Dollars, 1849. Similar to No. 1618. Size, 14; wt., 129.5 grs. Reeded edge.

J. S. Ormsby, Sacramento, California.

1620. 10 Dollars, undated. Obv. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—CAL. In the field, J. S. O. Rev. 10 / DOLLS. in two lines, within a circle of stars. Plain edge. Size, 18; wt., 257.5 grs. Pl. VIII, 5.

Pacific Mining Company, San Francisco, California.

1621. 10 Dollars, 1849. Obv. PACIFIC COMPANY CALIFORNIA. An eagle volant, with olive branch and hammer in talons; below, 1849. Rev. Liberty pole surmounted by the cap encircled by rays with stars between the rays; below, 10 DOLLARS. Size, 18; wt., 228.5 grs.

1622. 5 Dollars, 1849. Similar to No. 1621, but with 5 DOLLARS on the reverse. Size, 14½; wt., 129.3. grs.

Templeton Reid, San Francisco, California.

1623. 10 Dollars, 1849. Obv. * TEMPLETON REID, above the date, 1849, and ASSAYER below. Rev. CALIFORNIA * GOLD *. In field, TEN DOLLARS.

United States Assay Office, San Francisco, California.

1624. 20 Dollars, 1853. Obv. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. An eagle as on No. 1606; above, 900 THOUS.; below, TWENTY D. Rev. UNITED STATES ASSAY / OFFICE OF GOLD / SAN FRANCISCO / CALIFORNIA. 1853, on a tablet across the field, with engine turning above and below. Size, 21½; wt., 516 grs.

1625. 20 Dollars, 1853. Similar to No. 1624, but indicated fineness, 884 THOUS. Size, 21½; wt., 523.7 grs.

Wass, Molitor & Company, San Francisco, California.

1626. 50 Dollars, 1855. Obv. Diademed head of Liberty to left; around thirteen stars; below, 1855. Rev. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA; within a wreath, 50 / DOLLARS; above, on a ribbon, 900 THOUS.; below the wreath, WASS MOLITOR & CO. Edge, reeded. Size, 26; wt., 1287.5 grs.; round.

1627. 10 Dollars, 1852. Obv. Head of Liberty, diademed, to left; on diadem, W. M. & Co. Rev. S. M. V. CALIFORNIA GOLD. An eagle as on No. 1611, the eagle of same date; below, TEN D. Size, 17; wt. 262.7 grs.

The following pieces, chiefly half-dollars and quarter-dollars in gold, can not be attributed to particular firms or persons, but were evidently produced in California, or, at least were intended for distribution in California. It is doubtful if they were seriously intended as a part of the extensive necessity coinage of the West. They served chiefly as souvenirs:

1628. One Dollar, 1855. Obv. Head of Liberty, with diadem, to left; around, thirteen stars. Rev. CALIFORNIA GOLD N. R. within a wreath, 1 / DOLLAR / 1855. Octagonal. Size, 7½; wt., 13½ grs.

1629. ½ Dollar, 1852. Obv. similar to No. 1628. Rev. HALF DOL. CALIFORNIA GOLD. The date within a wreath. Size, 7; wt., 11 grs.

1630. ½ Dollar, 1853. Obv. similar to No. 1628, with eleven stars around the head, and D beneath. Rev. CALIFORNIA GOLD HALF D. Date within a wreath. Size, 7; wt., 9 grs.

1631. ½ Dollar, 1859. Obv. similar to No. 1630. Rev. ½ / DOLLAR / 1859, within a wreath; octagonal. SIZE, 6½; wt. 7.5 grs.

1632-3. ½ Dollar, 1880. Obv. Indian head to left; around, thirteen stars. Rev. ½ / CAL. GOLD / *, within a wreath. Size, 7½; wt. 4½ grs.; octagonal.

1634. ¼ Dollar, 1854. Obv. Indian head to left, with sixteen stars around. Rev. CALIFORNIA GOLD - 1854, within a wreath and plain circle; octagonal. Size, 6; wt., 3.8 grs.

1635. ¼ Dollar, 1854. Obv. Liberty head, to left, diademed; four stars around. Rev. ¼ DOLLAR / 1854, within a circle of dots; octagonal. Size, 6; wt., 3.8 grs.

1636. ¼ Dollar, 1855. Similar to No. 1635.

1637. ¼ Dollar, 1859. Obv. Liberty head to left, diademed; six stars around. Rev. ¼ DOLLAR / 1859, within a laurel wreath. Octagonal. Size, 6; wt., 3.8 grs.

1638. ¼ Dollar, 1859. Obv. Liberty head, to left, diademed, ten stars around. Rev. ¼ dollar 1859, within a wreath of laurel. Round. Size, 6; wt. 3.8 grs.

1639. ¼ Dollar, 1880. Obv. Indian head to left, with thirteen stars around; date below. Rev. ¼ / DOLLAR / CAL. within wreath of laurel. Octagonal. Size, 6; wt. 3.8 grs.

The Oregon Exchange Company, Oregon City, Oregon.

1640. 10 Dollars, 1849. Obv. OREGON EXCHANGE COMPANY. In the field, 10 D. 20.G / NATIVE / GOLD / TEN D. in four lines. Rev. a beaver; above, K. M. T. R. C. S. and seven stars; below, O. T. / 1849 in two lines, between branches. Size, 17; wt., 262 grs.

1641. 5 Dollars, 1849. Obv. similar to No. 1640, but the inscription reading, 130 G. / NATIVE / GOLD / 5 D. Rev. A beaver; above, K. M. T. A. W. R. C. S.; below, T. O. and date between laurel branches. Size, 14; wt., 129.5 grs.

CHAPTER VII

EARLY HOSTILITY TO INCORPORATED BANKS

The constitutional convention of 1848—Majority of delegates brought from the East intense prejudice against banks—Discussion resulted in prohibiting bank charters—Prohibition of banking corporations required—Issues of bank notes forbidden—Interest rates.

UNDOUBTEDLY the bankers of California have from the beginning suffered under a traditional sentiment of disapproval. Because they were needed they were condemned. Men who knew themselves incapable of caring for their own money, and who knew equally well it would be safe in the bank, suspected the banker instead of themselves. Men who over-estimated their abilities, or miscalculated in their plans, found it necessary to borrow money. And because the banker charged them interest, they hated him. Without stopping to refine on the equities in the "Merchant of Venice," the early Californian held his banker in much the same view that Bassanio held Shylock.

It began with the beginning. In the first constitutional convention the principle of hostility to bankers was discovered, and made its indelible impress. The convention, which met on September 1, 1849, in the Town of Monterey, for the purpose of framing the first constitution for California, brought to the task a very strong prejudice against banks of issue—a prejudice that was general and was the reflection of an equally general sentiment among the people. This was not to be wondered at, since most of the newer population of California was made up of immigrants from the eastern and southern parts of the United States, where wild-cat banks were at that time a recent and execrable memory.

The convention was made up of forty-eight delegates, of whom ten had been formerly residents of New York State, seven of Missouri, four of Louisiana, three of Maryland, two each of Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Virginia, and one each of Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Oregon, Connecticut, Wisconsin, France, and Scotland. Eight were natives of California, of Spanish or Mexican blood and descent. In the matter of callings, the law was most numerously represented, there being fifteen of that profession. Next to the lawyers stood the farmers, twelve in number. There were six merchants, two traders, three military men, and a scattering of other occupations, including one stated as "elegant leisure."

The constitutions of Iowa and of New York, the latter but three years in operation, were taken as guides, and many sections were copied verbatim from these documents. The New York constitution, in fact, furnished the exact wording of the sections relating to corporations and especially banking corporations, which was submitted by the special committee to the convention sitting as a committee of the whole, but after an extended debate it was rejected in favor of a provision absolutely prohibiting the Legislature granting any charters for banking purposes.

Two features in the committee's draft aroused antagonism. One which permitted the Legislature to grant special charters to certain kinds of corporations whose functions would not be covered by the general law relating to corporations; the other section permitting the organization of associations to receive deposits of gold and silver. These were regarded as dangerous and likely to leave a loophole through which the iniquitous banking system might find entrance. The prevailing sentiment was expressed by Mr. Semple, who said in the course of the discussion that he had been almost from boyhood opposed to every principle of banking, and that he had not found a single member of the convention who did not feel the same way. Not one solitary member, he said, was in favor of the banking system.

R. M. Price, a former resident of New Jersey, was of the emphatic opinion that the clause relating to banks should leave no

room for misconstruction. Not only should the issue of paper money be prohibited, but no banks should be chartered for the purpose of receiving deposits, for the reason that in so doing they must issue certificates of deposit, and these certificates might be circulated as currency.

"Would not this section," he said, "permit these associations to issue paper certificates of deposit? I say if they can enter into any speculation and take the money deposited in their hands and use it for the purposes of trade, and issue certificates of deposit, probably at par, it is, to all intents and purposes, a bank, and the worst sort of a bank. Where is their stock? What are the individual speculators liable for? You bind them by a bond. What is a bond? Can not any lawyer pick a flaw in a bond? Give me private and individual responsibility. I am prepared to go to any extent against banks in this country. The inhabitants are against them. Public opinion everywhere is against them. We have a metallic currency here, which is worth all the banks in the world."

At this point the chairman of the committee protested that the discussion was out of order, as the committee had introduced no article in favor of banking, or giving the Legislature power to create banks in any form.

W. M. Gwin, a minority member of the committee, disputed this assertion, and argued at length against the provision authorizing the incorporation of associations to receive deposits of gold and silver. It was folly, he said, to permit associations to receive deposits of the chief product of the country. It was like asking for associations to receive wheat, corn, and hogs in Ohio. It would benefit only those who lived by their wits and not the hard-handed gold digger, who by his labor was enriching the country.

"Let us guard against infringing on the rights of the people," said Gwin, "by legalizing the association of capital to war against labor. This is the only country on the globe where labor has the complete control of capital. Let it remain so if we would be independent and prosperous. If there are to be banks in the country, let us have private bankers, who, if they abuse the confidence of the people, can be punished by law, indicted and put in the penitentiary. The safest banking we ever had in the United States was that of Stephen Girard. Who ever lost a dollar by depositing with him? But thousands were beggared by the bankruptcy of the United States Bank. Look at the great bankers of Europe, the Rothschilds, the Barings, the Browns, and others who control the finances of the world. Do they ask for the privilege of corporate powers to receive on deposit gold and silver? But why say more? We certainly can not retrograde on this subject. Look at Havana, with a commerce of millions annually, that never has had a bank or paper money. Look at the exchanges of the world carried on by private individuals, and can any man have the hardihood to say that we want such associations in this country? I hope not."

There was much more of the same kind, significant because it was carefully prepared and uttered by the most prominent man in the convention, later to become United States Senator from California, and because it aptly expressed the sentiment of a large section of the convention on the subject of banks.

Mr. Sherwood, however, defended the action of the committee, and admitted his inability to see the fearful visions pictured by Mr. Gwin. If an individual were allowed to accept deposits and issue certificates of deposit against them, he could see no reason why such power should be denied to an association of individuals. In a community where the amount of precious metals was so great, he said, the people must deposit their money somewhere, and it was better that they should have some known and reliable public association to deposit with than irresponsible private establishments, from which they could obtain no indemnification in case of loss.

In reply to this, Mr. Price contended that no such associations were desired by the people, as proof of which he cited the practical operation of affairs in California for the previous nine months. Individuals had constructed safe places for keeping treasure, he said, and several million dollars had been received by them. The commercial operations of the country were very extensive, and the people had not yet asked for such privileges as the legalization of associations for receiving deposits. He was convinced that such privileges would have a pernicious tendency.

The discussion was resumed on the following day, September 18, 1849, and at the evening session Mr. Botts proposed the

unique plan of fighting paper money with paper money, his sole idea being to "crush this bank monster." His plan was to authorize the Treasurer of the state to open a place for the deposit of gold and silver, and to issue certificates, of suitable denominations, dollar for dollar, on the amount deposited, payable on demand, which certificates were to circulate as money, being secured by actual deposits with the Treasurer, and for which the state was to be held responsible. In support of the scheme, he said:

"I do not believe that any system you can devise here, that does not secure the existence of a circulating medium of paper money, will ever put down banks. In the year 1836-7 I witnessed the desolating operations of the banking system in the United States. My mind has been intent on the subject ever since. The result of my observation and reflection has been that in a mercantile community some circulating medium more portable than gold and silver is absolutely necessary to its existence. You must give the people a good circulating medium of paper money, or they will have a bad one for themselves."

The plan of Mr. Botts, however, was not considered by the convention, though some years later the national government adopted a similar device in the issue of its gold and silver certificates. Further discussion of the question showed a practical unanimity of sentiment against the issue of any bills or certificates that might be circulated as currency, and this at length crystallized into the following, which was adopted and became a part of Article IV of the constitution:

Sec. 34. The Legislature shall have no power to pass any act granting any charter for banking purposes; but associations may be formed, under general laws, for the deposit of gold and silver, but no such association shall make, issue, or put in circulation any bill, check, ticket, certificate, promissory note, or other paper, or the paper of any bank, to circulate as money.

Sec. 35. The Legislature of this state shall prohibit, by law, any person or persons, association, company, or corporation, from exercising the privilege of banking, or creating paper to circulate as money.

In accordance with this constitutional mandate, the first California Legislature did, on April 22, 1850, pass the following law:

"No corporation created, or to be created, shall, by any implication or construction, be deemed to possess the power of discounting bills, notes, or other evidences of debt, of receiving deposits, of buying gold or silver, bullion or foreign coin, of buying and selling bills of exchange, or of issuing bills, notes, or other evidences of debt, upon loans or for circulation as money."

More than a month earlier, on March 13, 1850, the Legislature had by statute fixed the legal rate of interest at 10 per cent, with the further proviso that on special contracts any rate of interest could be agreed upon and paid.

Two important factors in the financial development of California—private ownership of banks and unlimited interest charges—were thus early determined by legislative enactment.

CHAPTER VIII

BANKING IN THE SECOND AND THIRD DECADES

The Grangers Bank—First safe deposit system—The Nevada Bank—Shrinkage of bank deposits in the late seventies—Nevada Bank—Growth of banking in San Francisco—First State Bank Commission—Banks closed following first examinations—Later growth—John Sime—Operations of John Parrott.

An incident of interest in the banking history of California is recorded in Young's History of San Francisco: "A freak experiment in banking was made in 1874, when the Grangers Bank was incorporated. It was the outcome of a movement of the farmers against the middleman. There was a great dissatisfaction on the part of wheat growers because there appeared to be a manipulation of ocean steamship charters and the existence was charged of a ring which neglected no effort to put up rates for carrying grain to Europe. The purpose of starting the bank was to finance a scheme of securing ships under favorable conditions, and loading them with cargoes to be sold on the way to Europe, or on arrival in port. The theory of the farmers that they had been made victims of charter speculations seem to have been borne out by the facts, but the experiment of the Grangers Bank proved a failure, and while it maintained a precarious existence for years it finally was obliged to go into liquidation in 1895.

"In 1875 the safe deposit system was introduced in San Francisco by the California Safe Deposit Company in the basement of a building erected on the corner of California and Montgomery streets. Prior to that time the practice of allowing depositors to place tin boxes in the vaults of banks had prevailed, and the innovation was hailed as a great convenience. The subsequent failure of the bank which maintained the vaults and the flight of J. C. Duncan, its manager, gave a great shock to renters, who at first felt the confidence they had reposed in the safety of the contents of their boxes had been violated; but examination proved the apprehension was groundless. Curiously enough, the agitators of the sand lot, with whom the corruption of banking officials was a favorite theme, persisted to the last in asserting that Duncan had robbed the vaults before his flight."

Duncan's bank failed for over a million. He was arrested after repeated attempts to escape, and was tried three times, but evaded punishment because the juries disagreed.

Silver fell in price and volume of product from the high mark in 1875. The savings deposits of this city shrank from $56,000,000 in that year to $42,000,000 in 1881, and even the resources of commercial banks were decreased ten millions after 1877. In 1878 deposits in San Francisco were $38,000,000. They dropped to $23,000,000 in 1881.

The bank clearings of 1880 were but 68 per cent of the volume of 1878. Some people said that capital had abandoned California. But in view of the magnificent showing of the present, that estimate was evidently an error.

The Nevada Bank began business in 1875 with a capital of $5,000,000, mostly contributed by men who had made a fortune in Nevada silver mining. They were: James Flood, W. S. O'Brien, James Fair, and J. W. Mackay. The first president was Louis McLane. The bank's capital was increased to $10,000,000 within a year after its organization. This was the largest paid up capital ever named for a bank in California. Another peculiarity was that the bank with the largest capital had the smallest list of stockholders. There were but six in number. Later the legal restrictions of the state made it advisable to reduce the bank's capital, and this was cut down to $3,000,000.

In no way can the growth of the San Francisco banks be more clearly shown than in the comparison of their annual reports. The total resources of the savings banks in this city in 1858 was $22,000; in 1870, these resources had risen to $30,287,000; in 1880 to $45,842,000; in 1890 to $85,149,000; in 1900 to $127,317,000, and in 1910 to $160,000,000.

The commercial banks of this city showed total resources in 1877 of $83,895,000; in 1890, $65,294,000; in 1900, $74,918,000, and in 1910, $110,000,000. The San Francisco National banks had total resources in 1880 of $4,022,000; in 1890, $7,656,000; in 1900, $35,025,000, and in 1910, $200,000,000. But if the growth had been creditable in this city it had been none the less substantial in the state at large. Bank supervision did not begin until 1878, and was brought about at that time, of course, by the enormous bank failures immediately preceding. All the State banks in California in 1876 reported total resources of $182,460,000. In 1890 this had risen to $226,393,000; in 1900 to $316,-015,000, and in 1910 to $554,283,000. The Legislature in 1878 provided for the examination of "all incorporated banks of California." The first commissioners were: E. J. Coleman, Robert Ware, and James P. Murphy. Rufus Shoemaker was the first secretary of the commission. Just why the examiners directed their first fire at the Masonic Savings and Loan Bank is uncertain, but it is enough to know now that they had selected a particularly vulnerable point of attack. Among the paper in the Masonic Savings was a mass of navy paymasters' vouchers, which was believed to be undesirable security by the commissioners. The bank refused to replace this with other paper, and the doors were closed with deposits of $1,150,000, in August, 1878. It was found later that the commissioners' estimate of the navy pay vouchers was a just one, as the major portion of them were found to be forgeries.

The Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank, with a capital of $60,000, owed depositors $373,000. And as the managers of the bank refused to make good their impaired capital, the commissioners were compelled to close its doors. The French Mutual Provident Loan and Savings Society owed depositors $5,500,000, and as the supporting securities were considered insufficient, this bank also closed. Of the first four banks examined, three failed to survive. And the realization that their own fate would be as unhappy induced a number of bankers over the state to wind up their affairs. Eight savings banks quit business within two years after the examinations began, two of them in Sacramento, one in San Jose, and one each in Napa and Marysville. But while at the end of that time there was an apparent reduction of six millions in resources, there was a positive gain of four millions in deposits. Banking was in a healthier condition than before. Of course, many banks were absolutely sound, regardless of examination. And yet the movement was in a large measure corrective. There had been some warrant for the charge that the benefits of banking were all for the bankers, and the losses all for the depositors. It was a subject particularly canvassed by the sand lot orators of the time, and as financial institutions found firmer foundations, the intemperate clamor of agitators decreased.

Many were found worthy, sound, and solid. If a few had chosen perilous methods and had been stopped, it was demonstrated that the majority were safe.

California bankers were as progressive as prudence would permit, generous as justice would allow, and the standard established at the beginning and always maintained in the state, remained high. There were many private banks in the state, exactly answering the demand of the radicals who drafted the banking provisions of the state's first constitution. These men held that the only desirable banking system was that of the private individual. And the sentiment must have continued dominant, because in spite of the fact that the Legislature in 1876 enacted a law requiring semi-annual reports from private bankers, many ignored it. Eleven years later, however, the consensus of banking opinion must have improved, for the new law requiring private banks to report to the State Bank Commissioners was complied with. And in 1905 all the private banks of California were definitely placed under the jurisdiction of the bank examiners. In 1887, twenty-nine private banks reported their aggregated resources were over eleven millions of dollars, but by the suspension, retiring from business, and incorporating under state or national banking law, the number was reduced. And the total resources of the thirty-four private banks reporting in 1906 were but seven million dollars.

In the year ending July 1, 1883, all the banks of California paid into the state treasury, as bank licenses, $13,400. There were at that time eighty-four banks in active operation, subject to the supervision of the state board of bank examiners. Sixty-seven of them were commercial and seventeen savings. Six banks were in liquidation, owing depositors, when closed, over $11,-

JAMES G. FAIR

JAMES FLOOD

Three of the
"Bonanza Kings"
Who Started
the
Nevada Bank

WM. S. O'BRIEN

000,000—a deficit which had been reduced on January 1, 1883, to $4,000,000. The commissioners complained that the principal cause of failures in the past had been the paying of dividends to stockholders on the uncollected interest account. The following table shows the substantial character of the resources held by these eighty-four live banks:

RESOURCES.

Bank premises	$ 3,023,240.09
Real estate taken for debt	6,229,634.03
Invested in stocks, bonds, and warrants	22,287,820.92
Loans on real estate	41,317,768.40
Loans on stocks, bonds, and warrants	7,944,834.15
Loans on other securities	5,038,641.37
Loans on personal securities	25,353,708.97
Money on hand	9,518,866.27
Due from banks and bankers	15,421,688.20
Other assets	3,907,865.80
Total resources	$140,044,068.20

LIABILITIES.

Capital paid in coin	$ 27,804,700.69
Reserve fund	12,230,817.31
Due depositors	92,330,512.87
Other liabilities	7,578,037.33
Total liabilities	$140,044,068.20

Up to the time when experience proved the necessity of bank examinations of some sort it is impossible to follow the total growth of financial institutions in California. Following the panic of 1855 there were several years of lagging uncertainty. It was the slack water time for most of the commercial and financial interests of the Coast.

And yet, while the advance seemed less spectacular, there was a substantial forward movement in the development of the resources of state and city, and an increasing confidence in the bankers of California.

In the absence of such tremendous destruction as the Civil War, it is probable the flood tide of California's prosperity would have begun in the early sixties, but with sections to the East warring with each other, California was fortunate to maintain the position she had gained. The years which immediately followed the war were marked by a great and substantial progress in the banking interests of California, as in any other part of the country. The day of placer mining had passed, or at least its importance as a productive industry had been greatly reduced. But the quartz mills were in operation and the measureless deposits of silver in Nevada were being uncovered.

California escaped serious banking reverses until 1893, at which time, in company with the rest of the nation, this locality suffered. The state's consistent dislike of any sort of fiat money, or paper currency not absolutely redeemable in gold, may have lightened the blow for its bankers, and have rendered more brief the period of embarrassment.

In 1889, for the first time, the National, State, and private banks of the state, whether or not under obligation to make report, had nearly $250,000,000 combined assets and liabilities, distributed as follows: Savings banks, $96,032,676.88; commercial banks, $81,974,008.44.

The name of John Sime has been mentioned in these pages. He was a native of New Brunswick and his bank was at the corner of Clay and Commercial streets in the sixties. With him were associated Charles Smith, Benjamin Smith, and D. F. Hastings. The last-named gentleman had a bank in Sacramento at the same time under the name of D. F. Hastings & Company.

Mr. Sime was in Chile when gold was discovered in California, and had acquired a competence in the business of contracting. After establishing himself in the bank in San Francisco, he placed a branch of the bank in Virgina City under the control of A. K. P. Harmon, a partner. The practice was a very common one at the time, as nearly every one in San Francisco was interested in the development of the Nevada mines. Like Ralston, Flood, Mackay, O'Brien, and other big operators in Virginia City mining stock, the Sime banks engaged in speculation. Hr. Harmon's judgment of the fortunes of the time led to disaster, and the embarrassment of the Virginia City branch made it necessary to close even the parent institution. But Mr. Sime lived to pay the last creditor, although it cost him $350,000 to get clear of the wreck at Virginia City. And it is as much typical of the men who made banking in California as it is creditable to Mr. Sime to add that he not only paid his every obligation but paid interest as well.

John Parrott came to San Francisco more than fifty-five years ago and presently established the bank of Parrott & Company at Sacramento and Montgomery streets. Mr. Parrott was essentially a banker. He had a genius for accumulating money and an almost unfailing judgment in investments. When the banking business of Parrott & Company was transferred to the London & San Francisco, Mr. Parrott received $200,-

000 for his good will and took a half-million dollars' worth of stock in the reorganized institution. His capital was thereby increased to $3,000,000.

Few men who have ever been identified with banking in this state have been able to raise such large sums of actual cash as was Mr. Parrott. Besides his own very great resources, he had established an unlimited credit, and it would be difficult to name a transaction beyond his ability to handle. It is reported of him that when Wm. C. Ralston died he realized the necessity of bolstering the resources of the London & San Francisco. It seemed certain that if that bank should fail—and there was a most determined run upon it—it would be hopeless to try and save any other bank in the city. On the morning following the closing of the Bank of California, therefore, Mr. Parrott appeared behind the counters of the London & San Francisco with an amazing store of $20 gold pieces. The run continued through the greater part of the day, but its severity was tempered by the fact that many depositors, seeing Mr. Parrott on the ground, and knowing his financial ability and his absolute honesty, appealed to him for assurances as to the bank's stability. Mr. Parrott was a little deaf, and many a creditor of the bank will remember to this day his peculiar habit of cupping one hand about his ear and listening for a repetition of the question. To all anxious inquiries he replied, waving his hand towards the heaps of gold coin, "There is plenty more where this came from."

Unlike the case of Burgoyne & Company, already related, this was a genuine support. And it was so convincing that many depositors crowded through the ranks of those who were demanding their money, and when the bank closed at 4 o'clock it had $400,000 more money in its possession than when it opened its doors at 10 in the morning.

Many a banker asked himself and his associates then where Mr. Parrott got the million of dollars with which he reinforced the stability of the London & San Francisco. Perhaps the shrewd explanation of a veteran financier will answer their question. This is his version:

"In the battle of banks which preceded the closing of the doors of the Bank of California, and as a part of the strategy in that campaign, great sums of ready money were borrowed wherever ready money could be found, and securely locked away in vaults of friendly bankers. Among other cases, Mr. Parrott had loaned $375,000 to one of the brokers operating in the interest of the bonanza kings. It was a demand obligation, and even before the community realized the serious condition of affairs at the Bank of California Mr. Parrott called his loan. It had been secured with an abundant quantity of mining stock and was safe. But the borrower, realizing that his part of the battle was to keep the cash locked up for the day, said to Mr. Parrott: 'It will be impossible for any man to raise $375,000 in a day.' 'Then,' said Mr. Parrott, calmly, 'I shall sell your mining stock.' That was exactly what neither the broker nor his principals could afford. Throwing a couple of millions of stock on the market just at that time might not have saved the Bank of California, but it certainly would have wrecked a number of very promising mining enterprises, and would have been disastrous to the interests chiefly engaged in developing the Nevada mines.

" 'I can not raise $375,000 today, Mr. Parrott,' said the broker. 'But I will tell you what I can do, and will. I will give you $100,000 today, $100,000 tomorrow, $100,000 on the third day, and $75,000 with interest on the whole on the next day.' "

This may account for Mr. Parrott's sudden producing of money at a time which even the strongest concerns in the city found extremely trying.

John Parrott died March 30, 1884. His widow still survives, and the Parrott Investment Company is now housed in the building which Mr. Parrott caused to be erected in pioneer days at the northwest corner of Montgomery and California streets. The east and south walls of that building were constructed of stone brought to this country from China, and put in place by Chinese workmen. They used no tackle in handling the rock, moving each piece up a series of inclined planes to the level desired. And so substantial was the material and thorough the workmanship, that those two walls, unharmed by earthquake or by fire, remain to this day as they were when first erected. The building was gutted by the conflagration in 1906 and the inner walls have had to be rebuilt.

BANKS AND BANKERS OF LOS ANGELES

Pioneer banks—Troubles and lethargy of the '70s—The awakening and boom of the '80s—Recovery and growth in the '90s—Steady expansion of banking—Detailed record of bank organizations—Statistical record of banks from 1887 to 1915.

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ALTHOUGH the first bank of record in Los Angeles was opened for business in 1868 by Alvin Hayward & Co., with a capital of $100,000, not until 1887 can the banking history of the southern metropolis be followed with any accuracy, for the reason that earlier statistics were imperfectly kept, in many instances destroyed or the books of liquidated banks, giving the figures, so lost to sight or memory that they are unattainable. Suffice it, that in the nineteen years intervening the banking of Los Angeles was centered in two or three private concerns, the senior of which was the house of Hellman, Temple & Co., established in 1868. In 1871 I. W. Hellman withdrew from the firm and organized the Farmers and Merchants Bank, which opened for business April 3 of that year and has had continuous existence ever since. The nationalized institution, of which Isaias W. Hellman is president, capitalized at $1,500,000, today occupies at Fourth and Main streets in its sightly, exclusively banking quarters, what was the site of the old homestead of the head of the bank.

It is interesting to note that the silent partner of Alvin Hayward was the picturesque Joseph G. Downey, who in 1860 served as Governor of the state. In 1872 the Temple and Workman Bank was organized. It had varying fortunes until 1875 when, owing to the failure of the Bank of California in San Francisco, the wave of uneasiness spread to Los Angeles and the Temple and Workman Bank had to close its doors permanently.

At that time a third bank, the Los Angeles County Bank, was in existence, having been established in 1874 by John E. Plater, who is still interested in the banking business of Los Angeles through his connection with the Security Trust and Savings Bank, of which important institution he is a vice president and director. Owing to the lack of railroad communication with San Francisco, rendering quick transference of specie impossible, it was deemed prudent to close all three banks until reinforcements should arrive from the north, when the Farmers and Merchants and the Los Angeles County Bank promptly reopened for business, unaffected by the strain. Mr. Plater's cashier was the late George H. Stewart, who served as president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce in 1908 and as chairman of the finance committee of the City Council in 1910. While abroad in quest of renewed health he died at Shanghai in 1913. In 1891 the Los Angeles County Bank changed its name to the Bank of America, and two years later went into voluntary liquidation, paying all depositors in full on demand.

By way of contrast, as reflecting the vast growth of Los Angeles in the four decades of its commercial existence—for until the middle '70s the city was more Spanish than American in character and its ambitions correspondingly lethargic—from a banking capital of $100,000 in 1868 to $15,633,100 January 1, 1916, are the official figures. But, meanwhile, the emerging young city was to undergo many trying experiences, especially in the first half of the decade following the 1875 panic. In 1880 the tide of emigration coastwise began to set in and with the advent of sturdy American stock from the New England states the local banking business took on renewed activities. Seven years later the deposits in the eight banks then doing business in Los Angeles had risen to $11,128,668, and with the trend of business southward, away from the old Plaza district, began that era of realty speculation which resulted in over-inflation of values for a time, until the

city again caught up and easily passed the 1887 pinnacle of prices.

As usual, banking was conservative and, although legitimate business was freely financed, so carefully were loans made that when the so-called boom was dissipated the banks were in nowise detrimentally affected, although the deposits in 1890 had shrunk to $9,319,943, distributed among fifteen banks. But in the succeeding five years the recovery was absolute and in 1895, with two additional banking institutions, the deposits had reached $12,572,772. Steady progress ensued in the next five years, as may be gathered from the official figures of 1900, which record total deposits of $24,006,663, almost doubling those of 1895. Well entrenched and well managed the Los Angeles banks emerged from the panic of 1893 with only one small failure recorded. Two years later the total number of banking institutions had risen to thirty and the deposits to $70,883,871, an increase of almost 600 per cent in the decade. Meanwhile, the population had forged ahead in the same surprisingly rapid manner. Substantial business blocks and public buildings of approved architectural designs reflected the good taste and wealth of the aspiring southern metropolis whose forward movement was continuous and persistent. The monetary stringency of 1907 found the Los Angeles bankers well able to cope with the situation and, profiting by the lessons learned fourteen years before, a confident front was maintained throughout the trying period, not a single local bank having to close its doors in business hours.

By the end of the first decade of the twentieth century there were forty-two banks doing business in Los Angeles, having total deposits of $122,932,995. Ten of these accretions were due to the annexation by the city of outlying territory, but as their total deposits were only $1,752,813 they made little impression in the net result. In the ensuing five years many consolidations were effected, materially enhancing the solidarity of the surviving institutions so that in December, 1915, the number of banks was reduced to thirty, with the total deposits almost reaching the $200,000,000 mark; to be exact, $194,093,078.32, as shown by the official footings of December 31, 1915. From total resources of $13,504,327 of the eight banks in 1887 those of the thirty doing business January 1, 1916, had expanded to $225,742,381.54, representing a per capita of $425 for the 500,000 population now credited to Los Angeles. Loyal in their support of all undertakings contributing to the public welfare and enhancement of the city's best interests the affiliated banks have responded liberally to the many calls made upon them, their able financing making it possible to carry through to successful completion innumerable private enterprises and not a few of a public nature requiring the backing of strong financial institutions. This helpful spirit has been a notable factor in the city's progression from a pueblo to its present metropolitan attainments and to the banking fraternity of Los Angeles in no small degree does the city owe the proud position it now occupies.

In 1887 the eight banks doing business in Los Angeles were the Farmers and Merchants, First National, Los Angeles National, Los Angeles County Bank, Southern California National, Savings Bank of Southern California, University Bank, and East Side Bank. The dean of Los Angeles bankers at that time, as he had been for nearly two decades, was Isaias W. Hellman, who with his brother Herman had arrived in Southern California in 1859, coming by way of Panama. Serving first as cashier of the consolidated Farmers and Merchants Bank (1871), for twenty years thereafter he was its head, giving it personal attention, until he went to San Francisco to assume the management of the Nevada Bank, which later was merged with the Wells Fargo & Company's bank now known as the Wells Fargo Nevada National Bank; his career there, however, belongs not to this chapter. Upon the death of John Milner in 1895 Henry J. Fleishman was elected cashier. He was succeeded by the late Charles Seyler, a fine character, who for twelve years served the bank faithfully and well, retiring on account of ill health, to which he succumbed in 1915. Jackson A. Graves, vice president and general manager of the Farmers and Merchants since its nationalization in 1903, came to California in 1857, when he was five years old, his parents settling at Marysville, in Yuba County. Partial to the law, Mr. Graves pursued his studies first at San Francisco, then in Los Angeles, whither he removed in 1875. He was in successful practice until 1904, when the greater lure of the financial world won him away from the legal profession. Other officials of this oldest of the Los Angeles banks

are Thomas E. Newlin and Hugh F. Stewart, vice presidents; Gustav Heimann, first assistant cashier, and John Alton, assistant cashier. V. H. Rossetti, formerly of San Francisco, succeeded Mr. Seyler as cashier. One of Los Angeles's most highly respected, as he was among the wealthiest of citizens, I. N. Van Nuys served as vice president until his death in 1902. Reference to the annexed tables will show the growth by years of this stable bank's business.

Curiously enough, the present palatial home of the First National Bank is on the old home site of the Van Nuys family at Seventh and Spring streets, which the far-seeing owner had acquired in 1880. He began the erection of a magnificent business block in 1911, but did not live to see it completed. Founded in 1875 by the veteran citizen, E. F. Spence, as the Commercial Bank, it was nationalized and rechristened the First National in 1880, with Mr. Spence as president and John M. Elliott as cashier. In 1885-6 Mr. Spence served as Mayor of Los Angeles. In 1902 Mr. Elliott was elected president and W. T. S. Hammond, cashier, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the lamented Frank A. Gibson. In 1905 the bank absorbed the Los Angeles National and in 1906 the Southwestern National, which had been founded in 1902 with John S. Cravens as president and L. G. Nesmith, cashier. Mr. Elliott retained the presidency, with Stoddard Jess, John P. Burke, W. C. Patterson, and John S. Cravens as vice presidents. Mr. Patterson's health failing he went abroad, and like his friend and associate, George H. Stewart, died in the Orient. After thirty-six years of splendid application Mr. Elliott asked to be relieved of the more pressing responsibilities which the presidency entailed and in his stead (January, 1916) Stoddard Jess was elected, a banker of marked individuality and ability. Mr. Elliott remains in active affiliation with the bank as chairman of the board of directors, a newly created office. To fill the Jess vacancy was elected Edward D. Roberts, the well known banker of San Bernardino, a former State Treasurer. John P. Burke went to Los Angeles from San Jose, where he was active in the city's financial life and has been a stanch member of the First National's official family for the last six or seven years. Messrs. E. S. Pauly, A. C. Way, E. W. Coe, A. B. Jones, W. C. Bryan, and W. H. Lutz have served the bank with great fidelity in their respective official capacities for many years. The annexed tables give the statistical history of this, the oldest of Los Angeles's national banks.

George H. Bonebrake, long since deceased, founded the Los Angeles National Bank in conjunction with the late Felix C. Howes. W. C. Patterson was elected president in 1898 and W. D. Woolwine, cashier. Two years later, Mr. Woolwine having formed other connections, C. E. Bettinger was elected in his stead. In 1905 the bank, as stated, was merged with the First National. It was in excellent shape, with total resources of $5,641,547.

In 1886 the Southern California National Bank came into corporate existence with John I. Redick as president and W. F. Bosbyshell, cashier. It was started just in time to participate in the strenuous realty excitement of 1887, which year it doubled its original capital of $100,000. In 1889 the initial officers gave way to L. N. Breed, president, and C. N. Flint, cashier. Six years later, in 1895, the bank was renamed the Merchants National, with W. L. Graves, president. In 1899 Herman W. Hellman was elected president and at his decease in 1903 W. H. Holliday was chosen executive and Marco H. Hellman, vice president and cashier. They still retain these relative positions save that J. H. Ramboz is cashier. Other vice presidents are W. L. Graves, H. T. Newell, and L. C. Brand. The bank is recognized as one of the strongest in the city and has always been conservatively and efficiently managed.

Several of the best known names connected with Los Angeles banking were affiliated with the Savings Bank of Southern California prior to its merging with the Security Savings Bank in 1907. Founded in 1885 with E. F. Spence as president and Samuel B. Hunt, cashier, they were followed in 1893 by John M. Elliott, president; J. H. Braly, cashier. Mr. Braly succeeded to the presidency in 1894 and W. D. Woolwine became cashier. That year the name was changed to Southern California Savings Bank. In 1900 Charles H. Toll was elected cashier, a position he retained until 1907, when the bank was absorbed, as stated. At that time William G. Kerckhoff, prominent capitalist and a leading citizen of Los Angeles, was its president.

Six years was the life of the University Bank, founded by R. M. Widney, its first

president, and George Sinsabaugh, its cashier. It went into liquidation in 1903.

That same eventful year of 1887 saw the organization of the East Side Bank, with William Vickery as president and Uri Embody, cashier. In 1892 W. J. Washburn, a stable citizen of Los Angeles, continuously active in civic affairs in a creditable and unostentatious way, became president. Seven years later, 1899, the bank was renamed the Bank of Commerce and in 1903 it was merged with the American National Bank.

Another of the 1887 banks to organize was the California Bank, of which H. G. Newhall was the first president and T. J. Weldon, cashier. In 1898 W. F. Botsford was elected president and J. G. Mossin, cashier. Five years later the bank was nationalized and renamed the American National Bank, Mr. Botsford retaining the presidency and Mr. Mossin advancing to vice president, with T. W. Phelps as cashier. Other vice presidents were W. J. Washburn, Thomas E. Newlin, and W. J. Doran. No more cultured and accomplished person than Mr. Mossin ever engaged in the banking business in Los Angeles. He was an authority on Japanese art and his removal by death was as distinct a loss to local art critics as to the banking business. Waning health caused Mr. Botsford to resign executive control and in 1908 M. J. Monnette was elected president and W. W. Woods, cashier. A year later the bank was merged with the Citizens National. Mr. Botsford's illness proved fatal two years after the merger.

Also of 1887 origin was the Los Angeles Savings Bank with L. C. Goodwin, president, and J. V. Wachtel, cashier. In 1894 John E. Plater assumed the presidency, with W. M. Caswell, cashier. Four years later the bank was purchased and merged with the Security Savings Bank.

In 1889 came into existence the Security Savings Bank with F. N. Myers, president, and Joseph F. Sartori, its regnant spirit, cashier. The year following W. D. Longyear was elected assistant cashier and ever since as president and cashier, respectively, Messrs. Sartori and Longyear have nurtured the fortunes of the bank, which has thriven like the proverbial green bay tree. The late Thomas L. Duque was elected president in 1893, serving two years, but from 1895 to the present time, for twenty-one years, Mr. Sartori has held the chief executive office. Mr. Longyear for a like period has served as cashier. In 1895, also, the bank was strengthened by the election of Maurice S. Hellman as vice president, a position he has held continuously since. In 1904 the Security purchased and absorbed the Main Street Savings Bank, which merger was followed three years later by the absorption by purchase of the Southern California Savings Bank. In 1910 the roll of officers of the Security comprised, besides Messrs. Sartori, Hellman, and Longyear—the latter's duties including that of secretary: John E. Plater and Charles H. Toll, vice presidents; T. Q. Hall and C. W. Wilson, assistant cashiers; W. M. Caswell and J. H. Griffin, assistant secretaries. Later in the year R. B. Hardacre was elected assistant cashier and W. A. Ellis, assistant secretary. January 15, 1912, the Security absorbed the Equitable Savings Bank, a well established institution that had been founded in 1903 with W. J. Washburn as president and P. F. Johnson, cashier. In 1910 Willis H. Booth was elected vice president of the Equitable, which was the organization at the time of the merger save that J. G. Carey was cashier, with Luke Wood, assistant cashier. Its well equipped banking house at First and Spring streets was retained by the expanding Security as a branch bank and Willis H. Booth became a vice president of the Security. February 27, 1912, the Security absorbed the Southern Trust Company, which had been founded in 1906 with I. W. Hellman as president and Philip Kitchin, cashier. In 1910 Messrs. J. A. Graves and Hugh F. Stewart were elected vice presidents of the Southern Trust. It had total resources of $7,435,358 at the time of the merger. The added officers of the Security, which now became the Security Trust and Savings Bank, were W. A. Ellis, trust officer, and L. H. Roseberry, trust attorney. From deposits of $247,648 in 1890, the property of 1053 depositors, and total resources of $331,744, the report of the bank for January 1, 1916, showed deposits of $42,153,582.96 belonging to 94,000 depositors, the largest number of any bank west of Chicago, and the resources totaling $45,959,674.25. While the Security is a departmental bank, conducting savings, commercial, and trust departments, more than $38,000,000 of its deposits are savings and the bank is known as the oldest and largest savings bank in the Southwest.

Dating back to 1889 is the National Bank of California, founded by the late John M. C. Marble, who was its first president, with W. C. Hughes, cashier. In 1902 John Eugene Fishburn was chosen cashier and five years later he was elected to the presidency, with Robert I. Rogers, cashier. In 1914 the bank was officered by J. E. Fishburn, president; W. D. Woolwine and R. I. Rogers, vice presidents; H. S. McKee, cashier; C. W. Prollius and G. S. Pickrell, assistant cashiers. Messrs. Fishburn and Woolwine began their California banking experience at San Diego, gravitating to the larger city from the First National Bank of that city. Mr. Rogers joined the bank originally in 1891, fourteen years later resigning his post as assistant cashier to become cashier of the First National Bank of Pasadena. He returned to his first love in January, 1907, which year he was elected vice president. Mr. McKee has been cashier since 1910 and with his associates has aided in giving the bank the enviable position it holds in Los Angeles.

George H. Bonebrake was the first president of the State Loan and Trust Company, founded in 1889, and L. B. Hunt was its cashier. W. G. Cochran and J. W. A. Off succeeded to the respective offices in 1894. In 1889 the name was changed to the State Bank and Trust Company. Seven years later John R. Mathews assumed the presidency, with S. F. Zombro, cashier. In 1908 the bank was merged with the Central Trust Company, which, in combination with the Dollar Savings Bank, formed the Park Bank.

In 1890 was founded the German-American Savings Bank, which in 1912 changed its name to the German-American Trust and Savings Bank. Edward N. McDonald was its first president and M. N. Avery its cashier. In 1899 Mr. Avery was elected president, which position he still retains, so that the bank has been practically under the same executive management since its inception. In 1906 the Union Bank of Savings was absorbed. This bank had been founded in 1893 and for the first six years of its existence had a struggle to live. But from 1900 until it was bought it prospered and grew. Throughout the period Mr. McVay was cashier. The late W. S. Bartlett assumed the presidency of the German-American for a time, but relinquished the office to Mr. Avery when failing health came. W. E. McVay has been vice president since 1910 and the cashier and secretary is R. P. Hillman. The bank quarters in the Union Oil Building at Seventh and Spring are finely appointed. From total resources in 1891 of $402,212 to $22,460,355 January 1, 1916, is the excellent showing of this stable institution.

Short lived was the City Bank, founded in 1890, with A. D. Childress, president, and John S. Park, cashier. It permanently closed its doors in 1893, having fallen on evil times. It was the only Los Angeles commercial bank to succumb to the troublous financial times of that year.

Far different is the history of the Citizens Bank, also founded in 1890, with T. S. C. Lowe, president, and T. W. Brotherton, cashier. In 1897 John J. Fay, Jr., assumed the presidency, with A. J. Waters, cashier. Nationalized in 1901, with W. B. Wightman as president, in 1902 the late R. J. Waters was elected president and A. J. Waters, cashier. R. J. Waters for one term served the Los Angeles district in Congress. His failing health was followed by his death in 1912. In 1909 the American National Bank was absorbed, when A. J. Waters, J. Ross Clark, and M. J. Monnette became vice presidents and W. W. Woods, cashier. In 1913 A. J. Waters was elected president, which position he still occupies, with Mr. Woods as vice president; E. T. Pettigrew, cashier, and George E. F. Duffet, George Bugbee, and H. D. Ivey, assistant cashiers. Following the trend of banking southward the Citizens National in April, 1915, moved into the handsomely appointed banking quarters at Fifth and Spring streets. From total resources of $226,054 in 1891 the nationalized institution's report of January 1, 1916, showed $15,680,873.34, the record mark for the bank.

In natural sequence comes the establishing of the Broadway Bank and Trust Company in 1891, with Warren T. Gillelan, president, and Frank L. Forrester, cashier. R. W. Kenny became cashier in 1899, remaining with the bank until it was purchased by the Citizens Trust and Savings Bank July 1, 1911. At the time its resources were $3,271,245 as contrasted with the $96,-170 of 1891. The decree of dissolution of the Broadway Bank and Trust Company was entered June 17, 1912. Mr. Kenny died in 1915.

Seven years was the life of the Columbia Savings Bank, founded in 1892, with T. D. Stimson, president, and Lewis Thorne, cashier. From deposits of $83,881 it expanded to $451,732 in 1900, when it was merged with the Union Bank of Savings.

In 1900 was founded the Central Bank, with R. M. Baker, president, and W. C. Durgin, cashier. Two years later William Mead assumed the presidency and in 1907 the bank was nationalized, with the late George Mason, president, and James B. Gist, cashier. In 1910 S. F. Zombro was elected president and John R. Mathews, vice president. In June, 1913, Joseph F. Sartori was elected president; S. F. Zombro, M. S. Hellman, and John R. Mathews, vice presidents. September 1, 1913, the name was changed to the Security National Bank, and in 1912 Willis H. Booth was elected a vice president. The entire stock of the Security National Bank is owned by the stockholders of the Security Trust and Savings Bank. January 1, 1916, the Security National reported total resources of $3,987,841.

Founded in 1900 by William Mead, with Wilson G. Tanner, cashier, the Dollar Savings Bank weathered the stress of 1903 by doubling its capital to $100,000. In 1907 it had total resources of $1,107,304 when it combined with the Central Trust Company to form the Park Bank. In 1910 the officers of the Park Bank were Perry W. Weidner, president, and Wilson G. Tanner, cashier. James C. Kays, W. C. Durgin, and A. W. Ryan were vice presidents. In 1908 the capital was again doubled, and in 1912 the bank was absorbed by the Bank of Italy, at which time its total resources were $1,762,007. The Bank of Italy is a branch of the San Francisco parent bank. Its local manager is A. A. Michelletti and its total resources January 1, 1916, were $2,682,092.02.

Coming into existence in the strenuous year of 1903, the Commercial National Bank found it advisable to increase its original capital of $161,256 to $200,000, W. A. Bonynge, its first president, serving continuously, with C. N. Flint, cashier. In 1914 Malcolm Crowe was elected cashier. From total resources of $474,338 in 1903 the bank showed $3,809,335.78 January 1, 1916.

While the Los Angeles Trust Company was incorporated January 17, 1902, its banking department was not opened for business until early in 1903. James C. Drake was and still is the president and Robert Wankowski was the first cashier. In the summer of 1909 the trust company absorbed the Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company, which had been founded in 1905 by Honorable Frank P. Flint as president; Jay Spence, cashier. At the time of the merger Motley H. Flint was president, his brother Frank having been elected to the United States Senate. With the conversion of the merged banks into the Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank the ownership passed into the control of the stockholders of the First National Bank. It is officered by J. C. Drake, president; M. H. Flint, H. W. O'Melveny, and William Rhodes Hervey, vice presidents, the latter named having charge of the trust department. Jay Spence is cashier. The bank occupies its own building at Sixth and Spring streets, gradually working up from the ground floor as its business has increased. From total resources in 1910, following the merger, in January, 1916, the report shows a total of $23,813,585.89. Well officered and well managed the bank occupies an enviable position in Los Angeles banking circles.

In considering the Home Savings Bank, founded in 1904 by R. J. Waters, president, and O. J. Wigdal, cashier, a series of absorptions pass in review. First, the Fraternal Savings Bank, founded in 1906 by Addison Lysle, Jr., and A. W. Wright, cashier, changed to Miners and Merchants Bank in 1907, which with W. B. Ames, president, in turn merged with the Bank of Los Angeles. The latter was founded in 1906, with John A. Pirtle, president, and George F. Conant, cashier. George F. Doty was cashier in 1909 when the Bank of Los Angeles was taken over by the Home Savings Bank. The Manhattan Savings Bank was founded in 1905 by F. M. Douglass, president, and Charles Ewing, cashier. They also founded the National Bank of Commerce in 1906 which, February 1, 1913, was merged with the Home Savings and its national bank charter was surrendered when liquidation was completed. Including the absorption of the American Savings Bank, May 26, 1913, and the Globe Savings Bank in October, 1913, the Home is thus the surviving product of eight other banks. Its total resources in 1904 were $255,066 and in January, 1916, they had expanded to $7,812,498 under the capable guidance of O. J. Wigdal, its presi-

dent, with F. M. Douglass, J. W. Phelps, Boyle Workman, and H. J. Whitley, vice presidents, and F. L. Thompson, cashier.

Ralph Rogers was the founder and first president of the Pacific Savings Bank, with Lee L. Soule, cashier. In 1910 Mabel Bailey Rogers was elected chief executive officer, the only woman bank president in Los Angeles. The year following the bank was absorbed by the Merchants Bank and Trust Company, its deposits of $125,000 nearly paralleling its capital of $107,300.

Starting in 1904 as the Co-operative Savings Bank, with M. P. Snyder, president, and F. H. Nichols, cashier, the name was changed the year following to California Savings Bank. Mr. Snyder has retained the presidency since the bank's inception. He had served three times as Mayor of Los Angeles prior to entering the banking business. A. L. Crandall is the cashier. In 1913 W. F. Callander, formerly cashier of the German-American Trust and Savings Bank and vice president of the Home Savings Bank, became a vice president of the California Savings Bank. Other vice presidents are Walter C. Durgin, formerly of the Park Bank, and Newman Essick. The lamented A. C. Bilicke, who lost his life when the *Lusitania* sank, was an honored vice president of this bank. In the eleven years of business, from total resources of $189,193 the report of January 1, 1916, shows expansion to $5,066,926.15, which includes the business of the Traders Bank, founded by Philip L. Wilson in 1908 and absorbed by the California Savings Bank in 1915, the new organization having a capital stock of $500,000 and renamed California Savings and Commercial Bank.

In 1904 was founded the Merchants Trust Company, with William L. Brent as president and L. L. Elliott, manager. Three years later Mark G. Jones assumed the presidency and in 1908 the name was changed to the Merchants Bank and Trust Company with George B. Epstein, vice president and secretary. About that time the Western State Bank, which had been incorporated in 1907, with George B. Epstein, president, and Emanuel Cohen, cashier, was absorbed. April 3, 1913, the name was changed to Hellman Commercial Trust and Savings Bank, officered by Marco H. Hellman, president; Irving H. Hellman, vice president, and C. R. Bell, secretary. May 21, 1913, the Hellman Bank absorbed the All Night and Day Bank. January 1, 1916, the total resources of the Hellman Commercial Bank were $7,440,007.38.

International Savings and Exchange Bank began business in 1905, with John Lopizich as president and Albert Denton, cashier. In 1907 a commercial department was essayed, but discontinued after a year of experiment. Demise of the cashier, W. S. Pollock, was followed by the election of James O. Moore to the position. Total resources January, 1916, were $3,129,564.58.

Also founded in 1905 was the United States National Bank, with Isaias W. Hellman, president. O. M. Souden is the vice president and manager and F. W. Smith, secretary of the Clearing House Association, is its cashier. It occupied the old site of the Farmers and Merchants National for a time, later moving farther south, to Second and Spring. Total resources January, 1916, were $1,928,765.55.

Founded in 1905 by George Chaffey, president, and J. W. Phelps, cashier, the American Savings Bank enjoyed a prosperous existence in the eight years of its life until it was merged with the Home Savings Bank in May, 1913. In the interim it changed presidents several times. W. H. Workman, perhaps the oldest surviving pioneer settler in Los Angeles, succeeded Mr. Chaffey in 1906; he gave way to W. F. Botsford in 1908, and in 1909 William Rhodes Hervey, an able lawyer and former Judge of the Superior Court, became president. Its total deposits at the time of the merger were $3,000,000. Petition for dissolution of the American Savings Bank was filed in the Probate Court November 28, 1913.

Although the Federal Bank was founded in 1903, with W. R. Clark, president, and C. A. Neil, cashier, it was not until 1910 when W. D. Woolwine was elected president that the bank's business began to show definite growth. In that year, with George Chaffey as vice president, Maynard Gunsul as vice president and manager and James H. Goodhue as cashier there was a sharp upturn in deposits, surplus, and undivided profits. Three years later, with B. P. Glenn as cashier, the Federal was consolidated with the Hibernian Savings Bank, its total resources having reached $629,330.

In 1905 W. A. Bonynge and James O. Butler founded the Market and Produce Bank, which in 1908 became a branch of the Traders Bank. That, also, was the disposi-

tion of the Main Street Bank, incorporated in 1906 by J. M. Carpenter and G. W. Deibler and which, in 1908, went over to the Traders as a branch. As shown, the Traders was eventually absorbed by the California Savings Bank in 1915.

Bank of Highland Park, of which the Highland Park Bank is the successor, was founded in 1906 with George W. E. Griffith, president, and John B. Merrill, cashier. In 1910, with the change of name, R. D. List became the president, he giving way a year later to H. A. Church, with C. M. Church, vice president, and Oren Lientz, cashier. The total resources January 1, 1916, were $284,412.12.

Another 1906 new bank was the Globe Savings, of which Charles A. Elder was president and E. J. Scott, cashier. The latter was succeeded by R. H. Morse in 1908, and these were the executive officers in 1912 when the Bank of Southern California was absorbed.

The latter bank was a year older (1905), and its first president was Colonel J. B. Lankershim, a wealthy citizen, owner of several of the most valuable business corners in Los Angeles, of which he has been a resident since 1872 and of the state since 1860. At the time of the merger the bank's total resources were $1,011,732. The Globe Savings Bank in October, 1913, was purchased by the Home Savings Bank, as noted. January 17, 1914, the Globe stockholders were paid in full at the liquidating price.

Five years of business life was the lot of the South Side Bank, founded in 1905 by C. J. Goodenow, president, and F. E. Porter, cashier. J. V. Akey was president when the bank was absorbed with the Traders in 1911, at which time its total resources were $150,000.

Another brief flitting was that of the Consolidated Bank, founded in 1905 by a realty speculator, William H. Carlson, whose unfortunate investments affected the bank adversely. In 1908, with the collapse of the Carlson town site plans, the bank closed its doors (June, 1908) with $89,874 reported the previous December.

Another memory is the Occidental Trust and Savings Bank, Byron Erkenbrecher, president, and W. G. Blewett, cashier. After a year's fitful experience it closed its books December, 1907, with total resources of $44,613.

Short lived was the Mechanics Bank, founded in 1907, W. H. Green, president, and J. C. Dickson, cashier. It liquidated in 1908, at which time its total resources were $70,000.

In 1908 was founded the City and County Bank, with W. B. Ames, president, and H. P. Spencer, cashier. In September, 1913, Joseph Metzler was president and J. T. Bunn, cashier, at which time the Bank of Italy absorbed the five-year-old institution.

January 3, 1909, saw the opening of an innovation in banking in Los Angeles, when the All Night and Day Bank, founded by Newton J. Skinner, president, and J. S. Morse, cashier, entered the field. It was a novelty and did a land office business at first with small depositors. But complications having arisen a representative of the State Bank Superintendent's office was in charge of and controlled the business of the bank for several months prior to October 14, 1910, when the entire personnel of the bank's officers was changed, with L. C. Brand, a stable and wealthy citizen, assuming the presidency, and a strong directorate, so that public confidence was gained.

May 21, 1911, the All Night and Day Bank was merged with the Hellman Commercial Trust and Savings Bank, as recited.

In 1907 the Union Exchange Bank was started by C. J. Goodenow, president, and Guy W. Wood, cashier. Three years later, with L. C. Haynes, president, the Union Exchange was merged with the Oil and Metals Bank and Trust Company. This latter bank was the survival of the Columbia Trust Company founded in 1907 by Lloyd L. Elliott, formerly of Chicago, as president, and F. B. Braden, secretary, but converted into the Oil and Metals Bank in 1910, with L. D. Williams as cashier. It had a parlous existence, and September 5, 1911, liquidated with J. W. Wilson as trustee. The total resources January 1, 1911, were placed at $1,134,541.

Organized December 6, 1909, and opened for business January 1, 1910, the Los Angeles Hibernian Savings Bank has shown steady progression. Robert G. Hill was its first president, with G. Allan Hancock, D. F. McGarry, and George Lichtenberger, vice presidents, and George A. J. Howard, cashier. In 1914 George Chaffey, interested in banks at Ontario and elsewhere in Los Angeles County, became president, the official personnel including G. Allan

Hancock, J. D. Radford, and J. A. Cashion, vice presidents; G. A. J. Howard, cashier; T. E. Ivey, assistant cashier; Andrew M. Chaffey, treasurer, and A. M. Gibbs, secretary. With the absorption of the Federal Bank in June, 1914, the greater institution was reincorporated under the name of the Hibernian Savings Bank. From total resources of $688,247 in 1911 to $4,338,161.26 is the showing of January 1, 1916.

With the taking over of the business of the Broadway Bank and Trust Company as of July 1, 1911, the Citizens Trust and Savings Bank came into actual business, having been incorporated May 12 of that year. R. J. Waters was the first president; A. N. Redman, cashier. In 1913 Orra E. Monnette, a successful young lawyer and president of the local chapter of Colonial Wars and Sons of the Revolution, assumed the presidency. The bank has a strong directorate. The total resources January 1, 1916, were $4,389,391.20.

On December 1, 1914, the Continental National Bank was opened for business with R. S. Heaton as president. Mr. Heaton still retains the presidency, with W. D. Howard as vice president and cashier, Chas. P. Smith and H. J. Stave, assistant cashiers. The total resources of this bank January 1, 1916, were $1,237,527.36.

By the consolidation of municipalities ten outlying banks were brought into Los Angeles in 1910. These were: First National Bank of Hollywood, State Bank of San Pedro, Citizens Savings Bank of San Pedro, Hollywood National Bank, Bank of San Pedro, Citizens Savings Bank of Hollywood, First National Bank of San Pedro, First National Bank of Wilmington, Hollywood Savings Bank, and Harbor City Savings Bank.

The First National Bank of Hollywood was organized in 1903, and its affiliated institution, the Hollywood Savings Bank, was organized in 1904, G. W. Hoover being the first president of both banks. The present officers of these banks are: Joseph W. Norvell, president; Robert Hale, vice president; John P. Roberts, cashier, and E. D. Dietz, assistant cashier. The combined resources of these banks are in excess of $750,000.

Founded August 1, 1905, with Edwin O. Palmer, president, and G. C. Greenwood, cashier, the Hollywood National Bank, on a capital of $25,000 has seen its total resources grow from $171,557 in 1906 to $1,096,609.34 January 1, 1916. From the same sources grew the Citizens Savings Bank of Hollywood, founded in February, 1906. Its total resources January 1, 1916, were $511,315.78.

Incorporated September 2, 1909, the First National Bank of Wilmington has about marked time since its inception. C. A. Eubank is its president and Don C. Fohl the cashier.

The Bank of San Pedro was the first bank to be organized in that community, the year of its incorporation being 1888. Its first president was Wm. G. Kerckhoff, and the present officers are Henry E. Sherer, president; Geo. P. Adams, vice president; Henry Baly, cashier, and Robert C. Baly, assistant cashier and secretary. On January, 1916, the total resources of this bank were $363,675.99.

Dating back to January 1, 1901, the State Bank of San Pedro has had a steadily progressive career. L. W. Blinn, the well known lumber man, was its first president, but since 1913 the officers are Edward Maher, president; Marco H. Hellman, vice president, and J. W. Hargrave, cashier. Total resources January 1, 1916, were $688,500.

In 1903 the First National Bank of San Pedro was organized, with A. P. Culley acting as both president and cashier. This bank now has resources in excess of $450,000 and its officers are: W. A. Bonynge, president; Philip M. Gaffey, first vice president; G. C. Bell, second vice president; E. B. Moores, cashier.

The Citizens Savings Bank of San Pedro opened its doors in 1903, with Geo. H. Peck as president. The present officers of this bank are: Henry Baly, president; Geo. P. Adams, vice president; Henry E. Sherer, cashier, and Robert C. Baly, assistant cashier and secretary. At the end of 1915 its resources were $363,200.73.

Another savings bank was organized in 1906 under the title of Harbor City Savings Bank of San Pedro. Charles Nicolai was the first president of this bank, which position W. A. Bonynge now holds, with W. L. Davenport as first vice president; J. G. Austin, second vice president, and Philip M. Gaffey, cashier. The resources of this bank January 1, 1916, were $213,535.92.

Yokohama Specie Bank, a sub-branch of the San Francisco branch of the present

bank of Yokohama, Japan, was organized in Los Angeles, January 1, 1913. Its manager is Junzo Fujihira and its total resources January 1, 1916, were $575,572.36.

No chapter on Los Angeles banks and banking would be complete without due consideration of the Los Angeles Clearing House Association, whose object from its inception in 1887 has been to foster sound and conservative methods of banking. Not long ago, in a semi-public address, John W. Wilson, clearing house examiner for the Los Angeles district, asserted that if any one of the Los Angeles banks or of the "outer zone" banks in affiliation were to close its doors its assets would return dollar for dollar to depositor and stockholder. There are thirty-six banks outside of the city now subject, by voluntary association, to Los Angeles clearing house rules and regulations. They are, of course, regularly visited by federal and state examiners, but, in addition, the thorough inspection given by the district examiner provides a check on any tendency to "easy" banking, as undesirable for the too lenient bank as it is for the stockholder and depositor. In the three years since the "outer zone's" inspection has been under way the banks have greatly profited by the disciplinary rules to which they have been glad, yet obligated, to observe.

The 1916 officers and executive committee of the Los Angeles Clearing House Association are as follows:

President—J. F. Sartori, president Security Trust and Savings Bank.

Vice president—J. A. Graves, vice president Farmers and Merchants National Bank.

Secretary—F. W. Smith, cashier United States National Bank.

Executive committee—Stoddard Jess, president First National Bank; J. E. Fishburn, president National Bank of California; W. H. Holliday, president Merchants National Bank.

Annexed tables give the record of every bank reported on by the Los Angeles clearing house from its organization in 1887 to the close of 1915:

Statistical Record of Los Angeles Banks

1887 *Bank*	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 3,658,581	$ 500,000	$ 522,896	$ 4,690,623
First National Bank	3,271,142	200,000	160,824	3,676,467
Los Angeles National Bank	2,204,372	300,000	86,236	2,635,409
Los Angeles County Bank	893,770	100,000	133,977	1,128,096
Southern California National Bank	558,405	100,000	7,940	695,747
Savings Bank of Southern California	280,545	20,000	2,000	302,545
University Bank	188,463	100,000	3,337	291,800
East Side Bank	73,390	10,000	.....	83,550
Total	$ 11,128,668	$ 1,330,000	$ 917,210	$ 13,504,237

1888 *Bank*	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 4,121,923	$ 500,000	$ 718,600	$ 5,345,861
First National Bank	2,072,688	200,000	216,852	2,534,340
Los Angeles National Bank	1,537,457	500,000	92,248	2,274,831
Los Angeles County Bank	716,595	100,000	136,000	952,661
Southern California National Bank	315,559	200,000	30,244	597,381
California Bank	310,436	300,000	11,155	621,591
Savings Bank of Southern California	289,372	20,000	22,908	332,280
Los Angeles Savings Bank	255,112	25,000	16,253	297,513
University Bank	230,594	100,000	26,507	357,101
East Side Bank	72,050	50,000	2,856	124,906
Total	$ 9,921,786	$ 1,995,000	$ 1,273,623	$ 13,438,465

1889 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 2,595,958	$ 500,000	$ 832,182	$ 3,927,140
First National Bank	1,924,429	200,000	242,955	2,411,584
Los Angeles National Bank	1,578,577	500,000	107,645	2,231,923
California Bank	1,208,461	300,000	42,999	1,554,273
Los Angeles County Bank	440,790	100,000	128,000	713,772
Southern California National Bank	423,811	200,000	33,161	704,379
Los Angeles Savings Bank	387,950	25,000	29,203	442,153
Savings Bank of Southern California	273,880	30,000	14,318	318,198
Security Savings Bank	154,007	68,100	9,279	231,386
University Bank	116,992	100,000	40,380	321,915
National Bank of California	97,200	200,850	.....	345,000
Main Street Savings Bank	74,250	41,250	.....	115,871
East Side Bank	53,867	50,000	4,910	108,778
Total	$ 9,330,172	$ 2,315,200	$ 1,485,032	$ 13,426,372

1890 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 2,322,651	$ 500,000	$ 744,033	$ 3,567,685
First National Bank	1,755,766	200,000	258,246	2,257,213
Los Angeles National Bank	1,343,202	500,000	118,000	2,094,096
Los Angeles County Bank	587,524	100,000	124,000	811,544
Los Angeles Savings Bank	490,439	25,000	29,856	545,297
State Loan and Trust Company	465,761	492,528	17,513	975,803
City Bank	387,910	100,000	5,000	527,889
California Bank	353,754	300,000	43,331	700,402
Savings Bank of Southern California	352,367	30,000	19,161	401,528
Southern California National Bank	339,974	200,000	25,079	618,081
Security Savings Bank	247,645	75,000	9,098	331,744
University Bank	236,237	100.000	39,874	376,112
Main Street Savings Bank	201,254	50,000	2,710	253,965
National Bank of California	197,000	250,000	4,000	507,000
East Side Bank	38,459	50,000	2,814	91,274
Total	$ 9,319,943	$ 2,972,528	$ 1,442,715	$ 14,059,633

1891 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 2,137,473	$ 500,000	$ 749,211	$ 3,387,885
First National Bank	1,815,159	200,000	293,764	2,238,183
Los Angeles National Bank	1,151,585	500,000	115,330	2,005,594
Los Angeles Savings Bank	889,662	25,000	21,117	945,780
Bank of America	611,396	224,700	10,000	875,922
Security Savings Bank	601,030	100,000	16,659	717,690
Savings Bank of Southern California	581,014	40,000	18,285	639,300
State Loan and Trust Company	489,513	675,419	8,008	1,172,941
Main Street Savings Bank	440,755	50,000	8,667	499,423
Southern California National Bank	372,230	200,000	26,875	650,993
California Bank	303,554	300,000	40,744	644,430
German-American Savings Bank	293,123	100,000	5,088	402,212
National Bank of California	256,000	250,000	1,500	656,000
City Bank	157,271	100,000	5,569	271,380
University Bank	142,819	100,000	64,548	307,368
Citizens Bank	95,172	128,200	7,682	226,054
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	45,588	46,100	4,181	96,170
East Side Bank	33,609	67,890	.....	103,999
Total	$ 10,416,953	$ 3,607,309	$ 1,397,228	$ 15,841 324

1892 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 2,166,769	$ 500,000	$ 779,645	$ 3,447,615
First National Bank	1,812,991	200,000	302,686	2 360,677
Los Angeles National Bank	1,120,466	500,000	82,289	1,952,137
Los Angeles Savings Bank	1,031,675	25,000	25,859	1,082,534
Security Savings Bank	755,735	100,000	18,458	874,193

Savings Bank of Southern California	$ 686,809	$ 40,000	$ 18,737	$ 735,546
Bank of America	629,241	300,000	19,000	948,280
State Loan and Trust Company	460,769	700,000	28,654	1,189,424
Southern California National Bank	417,429	200,000	29,465	698,117
Main Street Savings Bank	404,299	50,000	10,944	465,244
German-American Savings Bank	397,037	100,000	10,147	511,361
California Bank	268,376	300,000	38,529	606,905
National Bank of California	199,000	250,000	7,000	603,000
City Bank	192,354	100,000	14,136	306,490
University Bank	152,777	100,000	74,905	327,682
Citizens Bank	120,049	100,000	6,381	226,431
Columbia Savings Bank	51,315	50,000	213	101,528
East Side Bank	38,152	25,000	161	63,313
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	24,270	41,100	3,379	68,749
Total	$ 10,929,513	$ 3,681,100	$ 1,470,588	$ 16,569,226

1893 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 2,164,875	$ 500,000	$ 817,162	$ 3,482,037
Los Angeles Savings Bank	1,177,283	25,000	30,322	1,236,606
First National Bank	1,000,269	400,000	244,454	1,689,523
Security Savings Bank	955,063	100,000	23,531	1,078,594
Savings Bank of Southern California	779,018	40,000	21,589	840,608
Los Angeles National Bank	701,659	500,000	74,663	1,474,665
German-American Savings Bank	638,956	100,000	24,040	812,149
State Loan and Trust Company	596,643	700,000	9,480	1,308,484
Bank of America	514,638	300,000	19,000	854,892
Main Street Savings Bank	426,256	50,000	13,592	489,846
Citizens Bank	308,103	100,000	15,386	479,056
California Bank	298,198	250,000	29,747	578,970
Southern California National Bank	290,346	200,000	19,778	553,675
National Bank of California	231,000	250,000	7,900	636,000
City Bank	194,822	100,000	10,736	327,601
University Bank	137,178	100,000	89,019	333,088
Columbia Savings Bank	83,881	50,000	3,333	137,214
East Side Bank	32,043	25,000	2,722	63,165
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	24,429	41,100	3,153	70,762
Union Bank of Savings	6,640	28,100	.....	34,770
Total	$ 10,561,300	$ 3,859,200	$ 1,459,607	$ 16,481,705

1894 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 2,317,943	$ 500,000	$ 823,959	$ 3,642,315
First National Bank	1,537,172	400,000	227,844	2,201,266
Los Angeles Savings Bank	1,149,216	250,000	37,763	1,216,980
Los Angeles National Bank	1,018,726	500,000	52,917	1,774,737
California Bank	820,661	250,000	17,629	1,088 843
State Loan and Trust Company	801,603	500,000	53,069	1,377,937
Security Savings Bank	592,575	100,000	31,116	723,692
Savings Bank of Southern California	544,783	40,000	17,495	602,278
German-American Savings Bank	465,465	100,000	30,510	600,316
Southern California National Bank	438,350	200,000	21,484	703,485
National Bank of California	383,000	250,000	7,900	791,000
Main Street Savings Bank	293,241	100,000	23,887	417,128
Citizens Bank	271,516	100,000	25,277	443,924
Columbia Savings Bank	93,817	50,000	4,043	147,921
East Side Bank	67,566	25,000	1,275	93,842
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	29,746	27,300	134	57,181
Union Bank of Savings	18,600	28,600	.....	46,848
Total	$ 10,843,980	$ 3,420,900	$ 1,376,302	$ 15,929,693

1895 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 2,855,512	$ 500,000	$ 827,067	$ 4,399,564
First National Bank	1,672,447	400,000	250,068	2,367,516
Los Angeles National Bank	1,502,496	500,000	65,256	2,651,574
Los Angeles Savings Bank	1,219,449	250,000	36,644	1,308,949
State Loan and Trust Company	758,838	500,000	50,285	1,394,619
Security Savings Bank	723,038	100,000	51,338	874,376
Savings Bank of Southern California	701,842	40,000	15,579	776,759
German-American Savings Bank	629,234	100,000	33,968	784,429
Merchants National Bank	599,303	200,000	30,824	874,277
California Bank	453,238	250,000	27,573	1,053,955
Citizens Bank	391,669	100,000	27,951	559,090
National Bank of California	380,000	250,000	12,000	792,000
Main Street Savings Bank	325,241	100,000	25,878	451,120
Columbia Savings Bank	177,786	50,000	5,121	232,998
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	85,481	27,100	137	112,718
East Side Bank	67,493	25,000	6,006	98,500
Union Bank of Savings	29,705	28,600	.....	58,505
Total	$ 12,572,772	$ 3,420,700	$ 1,465,695	$ 18,790,949

1896 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 3,035,935	$ 500,000	$ 878,012	$ 4,414,947
First National Bank	1,387,546	400,000	261,251	2,093,798
Los Angeles Savings Bank	1,289,699	50,000	42,853	1,382,553
State Loan and Trust Company	867,715	500,000	20,040	1,401,541
Los Angeles National Bank	860,831	500,000	70,749	2,101,124
Savings Bank of Southern California	838,883	50,000	27,070	915,954
Security Savings Bank	832,815	100,000	41,824	974,639
German-American Savings Bank	699,718	100,000	43,061	842,801
California Bank	437,453	250,000	27,250	717,970
Merchants National Bank	414,363	200,000	37,403	696,767
Main Street Savings Bank	396,885	100,000	17,934	514,820
National Bank of California	339,000	250,000	13,000	752,000
Citizens Bank	315,833	100,000	24,163	491,165
Columbia Savings Bank	195,820	50,000	2,099	248,282
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	115,064	28,300	1,033	150,121
East Side Bank	51,990	25,000	8,518	85,509
Union Bank of Savings	47,906	28,600	237	76,743
Total	$ 12,127,456	$ 3,231,900	$ 1,516,497	$ 17,860,734

1897 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 3,154,286	$ 500,000	$ 888,763	$ 4,543,050
First National Bank	2,082,000	400,000	262,887	2,784,437
Los Angeles Savings Bank	1,276,551	50,000	51,261	1,377,813
Los Angeles National Bank	1,129,908	500,000	62,585	2,268,438
Security Savings Bank	1,053,717	100,000	46,352	1,200,069
Southern California Savings Bank	774,939	50,000	26,966	851,906
State Loan and Trust Company	670,636	500,000	13,777	1,190,355
German-American Savings Bank	665,508	100,000	43,772	809,281
National Bank of California	455,000	250,000	20,000	876,000
California Bank	*525,000	250,000	30,000	825,000
Merchants National Bank	672,754	200,000	47,584	982,889
Main Street Savings Bank	376,295	100,000	17,742	494,037
Citizens Bank	341,827	100,000	25,490	529,912
Columbia Savings Bank	220,685	50,000	382	282,189
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	121,183	30,000	664	156,211
Union Bank of Savings	102,963	28,600	988	133,651
East Side Bank	* 60,000	25,000	9,000	95,000
Total	$ 13,683,252	$ 3,233,600	$ 1,548,213	$ 19,400,238

*Estimated.

1898 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 3,820,244	$ 500,000	$ 926,742	$ 5,246,987
First National Bank	2,169,864	400,000	279,859	2,887,373
Los Angeles National Bank	1,535,125	500,000	61,214	2,505,579
Los Angeles Savings Bank	1,509,501	80,000	27,339	1,616,841
Security Savings Bank	1,309,830	100,000	50,014	1,459,844
Southern California Savings Bank	867,644	50,000	33,529	951,172
Merchants National Bank	803,148	200,000	57,976	1,101,024
German-American Savings Bank	745,998	100,000	46,877	892,875
State Loan and Trust Company	735,643	500,000	18,426	1,277,275
California Bank	*600,000	250,000	30,000	1,000,000
National Bank of California	582,000	200,000	27,000	950,000
Citizens Bank	555,207	100,000	28,826	743,959
Main Street Savings Bank	389,074	100,000	16,365	505,439
Columbia Savings Bank	263,799	50,000	807	316,713
Union Bank of Savings	247,803	28,600	292	276,695
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	195,027	30,000	1,408	233,559
East Side Bank	*90,000	25,000	10,000	135,000
Total	$ 16,419,907	$ 3,213,600	$ 1,616,674	$ 22,100,335

*Estimated.

1899 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 4,842,954	$ 500,000	$ 930,267	$ 6,274,234
First National Bank	2,463,914	400,000	285,817	3,184,281
Los Angeles Savings Bank	1,791,743	100,000	22,117	1,913,861
Security Savings Bank	1,721,614	100,000	51,454	1,877,195
Los Angeles National Bank	1,625,374	500,000	70,456	2,596,531
Southern California Savings Bank	1,212,882	50,000	29,969	1,276,108
German-American Savings Bank	935,176	100,000	48,076	1,089,687
State Bank and Trust Company	872,739	500,000	21,445	1,408,180
Merchants National Bank	826,086	200,000	71,085	1,137,122
California Bank	785,967	250,000	30,244	1,147,397
National Bank of California	686,000	200,000	32,000	1,161,000
Citizens Bank	568,717	100,000	29,390	851,827
Main Street Savings Bank	448,215	100,000	14,592	562,861
Union Bank of Savings	423,620	30,000	4,167	461,280
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	335,837	30,000	5,390	371,228
Columbia Savings Bank	308,992	50,000	2,729	361,721
Bank of Commerce	111,116	25,000	13,690	149,807
Total	$ 19,960,946	$ 3,235,000	$ 1,662,888	$ 25,824,320

1900 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 5,009,724	$ 500,000	$ 968,282	$ 6,478,006
First National Bank	2,618,862	400,000	316,919	3,611,477
Security Savings Bank	2,183,051	100,000	55,763	2,345,034
Los Angeles Savings Bank	2,168,041	100,000	28,855	2,296,897
Los Angeles National Bank	1,873,002	500,000	127,206	2,959,078
Southern California Savings Bank	1,556,052	50,000	44,829	1,661,381
German-American Savings Bank	1,334,135	100,000	50,173	1,492,191
California Bank	1,173,130	250,000	48,139	1,520,885
State Bank and Trust Company	1,133,703	500,000	21,179	1,674,580
Merchants National Bank	1,114,009	200,000	91,981	1,505,890
National Bank of California	732,000	200,000	43,000	1,115,000
Citizens Bank	694,441	100,000	28,576	904,557
Union Bank of Savings	675,106	30,000	12,621	717,888
Main Street Savings Bank	567,909	100,000	14,645	682,585
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	488,400	30,000	15,067	533,468
Columbia Savings Bank	451,732	50,000	2,794	504,808
Bank of Commerce	125,816	25,000	7,299	163,116
Central Bank	107,550	25,000	5,331	137,881
Total	$ 24,006,663	$ 3,260,000	$ 1,882,659	$ 30,304,722

1901 Bank	Total Deposits	Capital	Surp. and Und. Prof.	Total Resources
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 5,830,082	$ 500,000	$ 1,022,767	$ 7,332,850
First National Bank	3,775,878	400,000	364,856	4,821,880
Security Savings Bank	2,878,764	100,000	72,809	3,051,573
Los Angeles National Bank	2,514,700	500,000	159,818	3,367,867
Los Angeles Savings Bank	2,459,565	100,000	20,000	2.579,565
Southern California Savings Bank	2,116,703	100,000	15,901	2,232,605
German-American Savings Bank	1,711,875	100,000	59,355	1,871,230
California Bank	1,592,785	250,000	52,039	1,895,330
Citizens National Bank	1,337,834	200,000	53,234	1 650,240
State Bank and Trust Company	1,222,757	500,000	28,897	1,755,996
Merchants National Bank	1,193,236	200,000	115,432	1,707,169
National Bank of California	905,800	200,000	53,200	1,320,700
Union Bank of Savings	866,500	30,000	16,003	912,504
Main Street Savings Bank	672,942	100,000	17,161	790,103
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	589,702	75,000	9,814	674,545
Central Bank	175,120	50,000	10,736	240,002
Bank of Commerce	*135,000	25,000	13,000	175,000
Total	$ 29,979,243	$ 3,430,000	$ 2,065,022	$ 36,379,159

*Estimated.

1902 Bank	Total Deposits	Capital	Surp. and Und. Prof.	Total Resources
Farmers and Merchants Bank	$ 7,604,913	$ 500,000	$ 1,006,922	$ 9,111,836
First National Bank	5,326,303	400,000	434,184	6,736,282
Security Savings Bank	3,917,643	100,000	83,052	4,100,696
Southern California Savings Bank	2,877,911	100,000	51,492	3,029,404
Los Angeles National Bank	2,831,553	500,000	210,773	4,042,327
Los Angeles Savings Bank	2,579,684	100,000	50,000	2,729,684
German-American Savings Bank	2,445,695	100,000	86,520	2,632,215
California Bank	2,403,469	350,000	120,444	2,874,327
Citizens National Bank	1,840,235	200,000	71,903	2,287,409
State Bank and Trust Company	1,530,474	500,000	25,616	2,088,966
Merchants National Bank	1,487,390	200,000	147,163	2,034,554
Union Bank of Savings	1,358,886	50,000	47,267	1,456,153
National Bank of California	1,156,500	200,000	85,500	1,162,000
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	1,091,816	100,000	31,574	1,223,349
Main Street Savings Bank	825,647	100,000	17,722	943,369
Southwestern National Bank	447,960	300,000	2,604	887,984
Central Bank	356,373	50,000	11,132	417,509
Bank of Commerce	*145,000	25,000	14,000	185,000
Dollar Savings Bank	73,911	50,000	3,000	126,911
Total	$ 40,301,363	$ 3,925,000	$ 2,500,868	$ 48,069,975

*Estimated.

1903 Bank	Total Deposits	Capital	Surp. and Und. Prof.	Total Resources
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	$ 7,635,882	$ 1,000,000	$ 635,065	$ 10,255,247
First National Bank	6,126,099	400,000	517,194	7,627,344
Security Savings Bank	5,221,299	100,000	112,450	5,433,749
German-American Savings Bank	3,596,818	200,000	213,780	4,010,599
Southern California Savings Bank	3,583,118	100,000	102,297	3,785,415
Los Angeles National Bank	2,831,553	500,000	210,773	4,042,327
American National Bank	2,878,817	1,000,000	65,252	4,040,070
Los Angeles Savings Bank	2,625,072	100,000	60,000	2,785,072
Merchants National Bank	2,439,832	200,000	186,966	3,026,798
Union Bank of Savings	2,012,102	50,000	58,070	2,120,172
Citizens National Bank	1,808,309	200,000	97,984	2,256,293
State Bank and Trust Company	1,655,946	500,000	66,711	2,294,574
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	1,360,636	250,000	102,383	1,713,311
National Bank of California	1,272,352	200,000	102,475	1,754,828
Southwestern National Bank	1,009,454	300,000	29,049	1,487,504
Main Street Savings Bank	907,932	100,000	25,013	1,032,945
Central Bank	704,316	100,000	46,951	862,556
Equitable Savings Bank	478,271	50,000	5,000	536,903
Commercial National Bank	246,392	161,250	.....	474,338
Dollar Savings Bank	179,530	50,000	1,365	230,896
Total	$ 48,573,760	$ 5,561,250	$ 2,638,778	$ 59,770,941

1904 Bank	Total Deposits	Capital	Surp. and Und. Prof.	Total Resources
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	$ 8,493,285	$ 1,500,000	$ 1,124,217	$ 12,788,631
Security Savings Bank	7,153,503	300,000	231,827	7,685,330
First National Bank	6,499,207	500,000	807,047	8,236,255
Southern California Savings Bank	4,630,453	100,000	155,002	4,885,455
German-American Savings Bank	3,972,606	200,000	250,159	4,711,152
Los Angeles National Bank	3,465,322	500,000	312,667	4,771,389
Union Bank of Savings	3,415,161	100,000	196,951	3,713,733
American National Bank	3,139,673	1,000,000	97,305	4,436,979
Los Angeles Savings Bank	2,730,367	100,000	80,000	2,910,367
Merchants National Bank	2,692,487	200,000	243,432	3,328,870
State Bank and Trust Company	1,891,816	500,000	58,580	2,478,131
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	1,858,247	250,000	112,977	2,221,284
Citizens National Bank	1,769,089	200,000	130,074	2,260,925
National Bank of California	1,370,857	200,000	113,845	1,884,703
Central Bank	1,076,381	100,000	60,591	1,238,009
Southwestern National Bank	1,035,124	300,000	40,407	1,671,882
Los Angeles Trust Company	946,368	585,000	37,368	1,579,675
Equitable Savings Bank	821,330	50,000	7,200	900,813
Commercial National Bank	564,738	200,000	4,948	918,087
Dollar Savings Bank	409,240	100,000	3,111	517,361
Home Savings Bank	154,670	100,000	.....	255,066
Co-Operative Savings Bank	126,875	60,000	.....	189,093
Total	$ 59,216,799	$ 7,145,000	$ 4,067,708	$ 63,583,190

1905 Bank	Total Deposits	Capital	Surp. and Und. Prof.	Total Resources
First National Bank	$ 13,628,038	$ 1,250,000	$ 859,439	$ 18,530,976
Security Savings Bank	12,675,561	330,000	295,944	13,344,789
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	10,587,016	1,500,000	1,271,042	14,858,058
Southern California Savings Bank	7,052,725	100,000	209,549	7,411,508
German-American Savings Bank	4,848,624	200,000	300,682	5,395,034
Los Angeles National Bank	4,313,960	500,000	346,089	5,647,547
American National Bank	3,792,800	1,000,000	105,910	5,199,658
Merchants National Bank	3,546,585	200,000	296,266	4,227,602
Citizens National Bank	2,342,592	200,000	166,423	2,889,016
Union Bank of Savings	2,250,488	100,000	167,016	2,517,504
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	2,148,720	250,000	139,075	2,537,889
State Bank and Trust Company	2,019,480	500,000	47,665	2,642,519
National Bank of California	1,882,882	200,000	290,781	2,547,364
Los Angeles Trust Company	1,524,385	1,000,000	132,259	2,673,929
Central Bank	1,301,180	100,000	89,387	1,838,238
Southwestern National Bank	1,134,520	300,000	41,155	1,775,675
Equitable Savings Bank	1,009,513	50,000	47,745	1,114,344
Commercial National Bank	898,249	200,000	18,196	1,266,446
Dollar Savings Bank	658,232	100,000	27,766	785,999
American Savings Bank	607,223	225,000	35,845	868,787
Home Savings Bank	577,848	100,000	10,562	702,743
Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company	480,419	250,000	36,841	962,161
Co-Operative Savings Bank	478,086	110,029	3,248	607,912
Merchants Trust Company	373,405	352,513	.....	1,105,132
United States National Bank	312,403	250,000	.....	767,403
International Savings and Exchange Bank	231,512	50,000	.....	281,105
Federal Bank	122,549	25,000	4,529	152,146
West Side Bank	50,298	8,950	2,305	61,553
Pacific Savings Bank	26,942	26,847	6,968	127,804
Consolidated Bank	7,636	8,150	108	15,895
Total	$ 70,883,871	$ 9,486,489	$ 4,952,795	$102,856,736

1906 Bank	Total Deposits	Capital	Surp. and Und. Prof.	Total Resources
First National Bank	$ 15,377,353	$ 1,250,000	$ 1,530,878	$ 19,684,346
Security Savings Bank	15,332,004	330,000	244,294	16,093,798
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	12,158,262	1,500,000	1,528,779	16,687,041
German-American Savings Bank	9,343,594	600,000	278,182	13,364,556
Southern California Savings Bank	7,630,530	100,000	288,328	7,781,343

American National Bank	$ 4,287,074	$ 1,000,000	$ 143,983	$ 6,531,057
Merchants National Bank	4,286,623	200,000	386,623	5,067,187
Los Angeles Trust Company	3,344,639	1,000,000	176,568	4,645,344
Citizens National Bank	3,035,188	300,000	342,718	3,862,907
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	2,280,453	250,000	161,376	2,691,924
National Bank of California	2,092,384	500,000	105,906	2,889,590
State Bank and Trust Company	1,862,662	500,000	37,030	2,523,995
Central Bank	1,579,010	100,000	135,498	2,416,315
Commercial National Bank	1,320,051	200,000	30,899	1,701,011
Equitable Savings Bank	1,295,211	50,000	49,517	1,399,728
American Savings Bank	1,280,922	225,000	51,318	1,557,241
Southern Trust Company	1,022,573	200,000	6,076	1,315,084
California Savings Bank	927,000	152,360	500	1,125,228
Dollar Savings Bank	859,203	100,000	29,970	1,008,443
Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company	852,591	250,000	89,125	1,305,103
Merchants Trust Company	782,139	356,000	.....	1,592,090
Home Savings Bank	688,697	200,000	18,522	925,934
United States National Bank	586,033	250,000	6,630	1,040,864
International Savings and Exchange Bank	431,486	134,000	5,606	571,105
National Bank of Commerce	352,584	200,000	20,689	723,273
Federal Bank	201,806	25,000	9,063	235,869
Bank of Southern California	154,553	67,000	807	222,361
Bank of Los Angeles	146,519	48,200	9,640	239,106
Fraternal Savings and Commercial Bank	123,153	40,715	206	171,074
Market and Produce Bank	113,892	50,000	2,682	166,574
Manhattan Savings Bank	99,261	25,000	1,334	128,154
Pacific Savings Bank	63,622	57,990	6,163	127,804
South Side Bank	48,224	12,500	2,262	62,986
Consolidated Bank	40,071	13,480	1,274	61,825
West Side Bank	29,344	10,000	.....	39,527
Main Street Bank	25,099	22,290	48	47,438
Occidental Trust and Savings Bank	6,487	21,561	.....	28,049
Total	$ 84,060,297	$10,341,096	$ 5,702,494	$110,035,274

1907 *Bank*	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Security Savings Bank	$ 15,838,778	$ 512,500	$ 252,702	$ 16,664,780
First National Bank	11,685,282	1,250,000	1,449,001	17,121,383
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	10,262,478	1,500,000	1,737,552	15.530,031
German-American Savings Bank	9,286,080	600.000	286,692	12,504,155
Southern California Savings Bank	7,362,563	100,000	293,028	7,781,343
Los Angeles Trust Company	4,248,614	1,000,000	295,938	5,760,732
Merchants National Bank	3,535,138	200,000	430,752	4,415,896
American National Bank	3,112,599	1,000,000	194,240	5,902,339
National Bank of California	2,310,906	500,000	130,764	3,806,671
Southern Trust Company	2,306,071	1,000,000	191,263	3,639,239
Citizens National Bank	2,241,362	300,000	403,112	3,502,176
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	2,114,983	250,000	194,174	2,559,288
Central National Bank	1,883,641	300,000	200,000	3,383,641
State Bank and Trust Company	1,854,948	500,000	10,299	2,366,654
American Savings Bank	1,665,930	225,000	35,845	1,950,129
Equitable Savings Bank	1,267,845	50,000	82,129	1,399,975
Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company	1,074,634	250,000	93,586	1,526,793
California Savings Bank	1,058,855	177,362	23,994	1,291,064
Commercial National Bank	1,013,654	200,000	46,755	1,580,469
Dollar Savings Bank	944,834	100,000	36,519	1,107,304
Merchants Trust Company	919,853	500,000	10,944	1,500,000
International Savings and Exchange Bank	681,905	147,100	11,167	844,354
United States National Bank	673,126	250,000	16,796	1,149,639
Home Savings Bank	625,688	200,000	29,041	872,767
Bank of Southern California	599,910	100,000	20,955	721,239
National Bank of Commerce	355,930	200,000	22,845	867,908
Bank of Los Angeles	317,700	100,000	16,250	239 106
Federal Bank	255,090	25,000	11,630	291,833
Market and Produce Bank	200,937	50,000	1,253	166,574
Columbia Trust Company	180,695	100,700	25,175	308,104
Fraternal Savings and Commercial Bank	178,615	98,550	.....	286,801
Bank of Highland Park	128,700	33,333	6,517	168,580
Globe Savings Bank	110,380	150,000	6,146	266,526
West Side Bank	109,013	25,000	.....	134,870

Manhattan Savings Bank	$ 107,694	$ 25,000	$ 6,743	$ 139,469
South Side Bank	81,317	25,000	1,398	107,716
Main Street Bank	79,538	30,000	610	110,149
Pacific Savings Bank	75,109	74,780	7,149	157,039
Western State Bank	43,019	49,250	.....	92,815
Mechanics Bank	29,331	25,000	.....	55,018
Occidental Trust and Savings Bank	17,842	25,682	1,088	44,613
Union Exchange Bank	13,181	26,200	.....	39,722
Total	$ 90,853,768	$12,275,457	$ 6,634,052	$112,358,904

1908 *Bank*	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Security Savings Bank	$ 18,679,143	$ 850,000	$ 415,166	$ 19,981,202
First National Bank	13,785,164	1,250,000	1,604,388	17,761,053
Farmers and Merchants Bank	10,216,388	1,500,000	1,830,971	15,058,437
German-American Savings Bank	10,049,046	600,000	322,644	11,985,979
Merchants National Bank	4,697,065	200,000	554,875	5,849,041
American National Bank	3,319,895	1,000,000	211,543	5,229,139
National Bank of California	3,071,124	500,000	138,000	4,209,151
Los Angeles Trust Company	2,865,685	1,000,000	355,952	4,333,017
Citizens National Bank	2,697,080	300,000	440,454	3,722,534
Southern Trust Company	2,414,556	1,000,000	190,492	3,775,519
Central National Bank	1,928,951	300,000	221,929	2,675,881
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	1,446,706	250,000	205,909	1,902,908
American Savings Bank	1,387,845	225,000	68,505	1,680,333
Park Bank	1,315,024	200,000	13,758	1,588,782
Commercial National Bank	1,312,121	200,000	37,980	1,720,110
Equitable Savings Bank	1,126,071	50,000	84,474	1,260,546
Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company	935,035	250,000	88,993	1,284,015
California Savings Bank	779,855	204,209	18,755	1,020,482
United States National Bank	677,355	250,000	26,656	1,220,511
Home Savings Bank	658,099	200,000	22,484	1,424,942
Merchants Bank and Trust Company	516,221	500,000	38,281	1,286,123
Traders Bank	494,206	200,000	.....	698,141
International Savings and Exchange Bank	448,951	149,200	9,209	664,861
City and County Bank	419,669	50,000	12,500	485,550
National Bank of Commerce	417,811	200,000	29,201	847,120
Bank of Los Angeles	412,009	199,225	1,094	644,455
Bank of Southern California	288,296	100,000	42,547	616,843
Federal Bank	179,803	25,000	8,780	223,647
Market and Produce Bank	179,582	50,000	9,357	238,954
Globe Savings Bank	165,281	200,000	7,743	373,025
Bank of Highland Park	161,142	33,333	9,497	215,021
Western State Bank	108,733	50,000	.....	158,815
South Side Bank	83,379	25,000	1,296	109,894
Manhattan Savings Bank	59,442	50,000	6,719	116,161
Mechanics Bank	43,982	25,000	1,498	70,481
Union Exchange Bank	23,816	26,200	.....	53.204
Pacific Savings Bank	14,160	105,940	6,998	127,098
Total	$ 87,378,691	$12,318,107	$ 7,038,648	$104,615,975

1909 *Bank*	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Security Savings Bank	$ 22,549,128	$ 850,000	$ 581,542	$ 23,980,670
First National Bank	14,818,717	1,250,000	1,608,424	18,346,542
German-American Savings Bank	11,250,795	600,000	352,784	12,203,579
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	10,938,320	1,500,000	1,886,012	15,921,238
Merchants National Bank	5,558,056	200,000	606,991	6,640,490
American National Bank	4,228,976	1,000,000	200,093	6,130,133
National Bank of California	4,051,842	500,000	150,587	5,252,429
Los Angeles Trust Company	4,012,173	1,000,000	448,746	5,637,035
Citizens National Bank	3,792,377	300,000	458,755	4,800,155
Southern Trust Company	3,615,448	1,000,000	198,897	4,905,345
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	1,985,545	250,000	203,771	2,479,326
Central National Bank	1,932,481	300,000	233,773	2,560,887
American Savings Bank	1,772,942	240,000	63,907	2,076,850
Equitable Savings Bank	1,716,835	225,000	62,562	2,059,235

Commercial National Bank	$ 1,507,794	$ 200,000	$ 39,258	$ 1,975,969
Merchants Bank and Trust Company	1,391,733	250,000	200,000	1,516,338
Home Savings Bank	1,269,423	327,400	20,763	1,626,782
California Savings Bank	1,257,568	220,000	15,713	1,499,056
Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company	1,226,504	250,000	349,373	1,575,878
Park Bank	911,880	200,000	31,065	1,168,563
International Savings and Exchange Bank	879,050	200,000	12,555	1,091,606
Traders Bank	793,782	200,000	2,338	1,017,213
United States National Bank	758,055	200,000	88,422	1,133,936
National Bank of Commerce	614,265	200,000	24,167	991,941
City and County Bank	447,177	51,300	12,780	524,773
Bank of Southern California	429,149	300,000	29,485	819,204
Globe Savings Bank	327,766	200,000	18,752	546,508
All Night and Day Bank	325,654	89,600	600	416,279
Columbia Trust Company	236,891	200,000	.....	531,143
Federal Bank	227,291	25,000	12,562	266,225
Bank of Highland Park	185,339	50,000	3,493	234,531
South Side Bank	99,454	25,000	1,296	136,496
Union Exchange Bank	42,330	34,000	9,334	88,140
Pacific Savings Bank	35,000	107,150	9,500	159,000
Total	$105,189,740	$12,544,450	$ 7,938,300	$132,323,500

1910 Bank	*Total* Deposits	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total* Resources
Security Savings Bank	$ 27,921,397	$ 1,000,000	$ 897,652	$ 29,801,049
First National Bank	14,998,851	1,250,000	1,768,980	19,127,872
German-American Savings Bank	13,926,052	700,000	475,801	15,101,854
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	10,749,629	1,500,000	1,919,826	15,839,351
Citizens National Bank	7,698,946	1,000,000	547,646	10,231,008
Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank	6,864,060	1,250,000	604,561	8,869,779
Merchants National Bank	5,552,681	200,000	684,629	6,733,711
Southern Trust Company	4,813,352	1,000,000	238,153	6,081,716
National Bank of California	4,121,955	500,000	181,576	5,353,531
American Savings Bank	2,327,422	240,000	73,869	2,641,291
Equitable Savings Bank	2,230,668	250,000	78,900	2,559,568
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	2,116,945	250,000	246,933	2,713,878
Central National Bank	2,110,235	300,000	246,003	2,727,542
Commercial National Bank	1,833,229	200,000	46,993	2,291,761
California Savings Bank	1,640,875	229,918	23,142	1,893,935
Home Savings Bank	1,636,104	400,000	41,239	2,093,580
Merchants Bank and Trust Company	1,550,759	250,000	225,651	2,053,410
International Savings and Exchange Bank	1,297,701	200,000	11,119	1,508,820
Park Bank	1,157,032	200,000	30,725	1,387,757
United States National Bank	1,009,180	200,000	98,284	1,554,865
Traders Bank	944,485	200,000	4,814	1,149,300
All Night and Day Bank	876,511	200,000	7,600	1,130,128
National Bank of Commerce	729,058	200,000	25,247	1,154,306
Bank of Southern California	547,196	300,000	5,563	874,572
Oil and Metals Bank and Trust Company	529,949	271,100	.....	914,092
City and County Bank	462,269	51,700	6,410	520,431
Globe Savings Bank	361,339	200,000	15,676	589,327
Federal Bank	290,085	25,000	5,072	326,077
First National Bank of Hollywood	*269,026	25,000	9,883	328,510
State Bank of San Pedro	*250,000	25,000	28,750	300,000
Hollywood National Bank	*241,646	25,000	6,321	297,186
Highland Park Bank	*234,701	55,000	.....	280,000
Bank of San Pedro	*221,338	50,000	18,569	289,908
Citizens Savings Bank of San Pedro	*205,994	25,000	9,929	241,009
Citizens Savings Bank of Hollywood	*159,874	25,000	2,276	187,151
First National Bank of San Pedro	*154,281	50,000	1,651	206,000
First National Bank of Wilmington	*146,922	25,000	6,452	205,796
Pacific Savings Bank	125,000	107,300	12,000	265,000
South Side Bank	122,500	25,000	2,418	150,000
Hollywood Savings Bank	*119,266	25,000	2,206	161,591
Harbor City Savings Bank	* 84,466	25,000	3,469	131,127
Los Angeles Hibernian Savings Bank	135,000	200,000	Began business June 1	
Total	$122,932,995	$13,255,018	$ 8,598,003	$150,267,803

*These banks were brought into the city by the consolidation of municipalities.

1911 Bank	Total Deposits	Capital	Surp. and Und. Prof.	Total Resources
Security Savings Bank	$ 31,379,180	$ 1,000,000	$ 1,033,173	$ 33,412,354
First National Bank of Los Angeles	16,286,304	1,500,000	2,256,761	20,885,942
German-American Savings Bank	16,221,091	700,000	561,643	17,482,735
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	12,299,977	1,500,000	1,992,902	17,996,337
Los Angeles Trust & Savings Bank	9,229,376	1,500,000	954,208	11,833,201
Citizens National Bank	8,283,117	1,000,000	618,234	11,286,062
Merchants National Bank	6,649,520	200,000	737,650	7,883,171
Southern Trust Company	6,246,208	1,000,000	252,603	7,435,358
National Bank of California	4,249,623	500,000	199,298	5,522,735
Broadway Bank and Trust Company	2,739,860	250,000	281,385	3,271,245
Equitable Savings Bank	2,523,039	250,000	88,287	2,861,326
American Savings Bank	2,472,275	270,000	88,883	2,831,158
Central National Bank	2,420,382	300,000	240,195	3,031,177
Commercial National Bank	2,032,032	200,000	55,044	2,529,327
California Savings Bank	1,975,048	244,450	37,635	2,257,473
Home Savings Bank	1,945,513	400,000	49,809	2,413,967
Merchants Bank and Trust Company	1,715,894	250,000	160,470	2,148,133
International Savings and Exchange Bank	1,671,658	200,000	16,639	1,888,259
All Night and Day Bank	1,403,806	140,000	18,784	1,562,591
Park Bank	1,374,347	200,000	29,925	1,604,272
Traders Bank	1,238,535	200,000	7,841	1,454,661
United States National Bank	1,198,950	200,000	109,484	1,757,935
National Bank of Commerce	880,887	200,000	30,704	1,311,592
Oil and Metals Bank and Trust Company	692,238	275,400	7,780	1,134,577
Bank of Southern California	681,751	300,500	4,481	1,011,732
Globe Savings Bank	627,966	200,000	27,136	856,103
City and County Bank	494,418	70,000	12,361	576,780
Federal Bank	465,045	50,000	11,804	526,849
Los Angeles Hibernian Savings Bank	438,247	250,000	73	688,247
Hollywood National Bank	339,650	25,000	4,224	400,052
First National Bank of Hollywood	265,000	25,000	12,000	326,000
State Bank of San Pedro	251,000	25,000	30,000	300,000
Citizens Savings Bank of San Pedro	249,761	25,000	12,831	287,592
Bank of San Pedro	245,138	50,000	17,327	315,675
First National Bank of San Pedro	214,448	50,000	12,130	325,679
Highland Park Bank	203,716	25,000	940	229,657
Citizens Savings Bank of Hollywood	197,588	25,000	3,747	230,208
Hollywood Savings Bank	168,000	25,000	2,500	195,000
First National Bank of Wilmington	130,050	25,000	11,300	188,197
Harbor City Savings Bank	117,764	25,000	4,872	148,387
Total	$138,218,417	$13,675,350	$ 9,997,079	$172,401,759

1912 Bank	Total Deposits	Capital	Surp. and Und. Prof.	Total Resources
Security Trust & Savings Bank	$ 43,643,329	$ 1,650,000	$ 1,698,701	$ 46,992,031
German-American Trust & Savings Bank	19,277,476	1,000,000	1,037,145	21,564,622
First National Bank of Los Angeles	18,056,299	1,500,000	2,326,258	22,712,770
Los Angeles Trust & Savings Bank	16,578,734	1,500,000	1,101,248	19,359,982
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	13,525,826	1,500,000	2,032,114	19,134,316
Citizens National Bank	10,727,397	1,500,000	617,234	13,824,997
Merchants National Bank	7,071,430	200,000	883,485	8,350,115
National Bank of California	5,542,806	500,000	200,000	6,828,864
All Night and Day Bank	2,850,498	264,700	47,797	3,171,218
California Savings Bank	2,786,211	277,000	52,521	3,115,726
Central National Bank	2,709,120	300,000	250,567	3,311,888
American Savings Bank	2,687,021	300,000	152,932	3,139,954
Citizens Trust and Savings Bank	2,637,969	500,000	70,385	3,208,344
Commercial National Bank	2,534,061	200,000	65,793	3,084,270
Home Savings Bank	2,370,229	400,000	58,900	2,846,992
International Savings and Exchange Bank	2,019,642	300,000	44,997	2,381,206
Globe Savings Bank	2,013,724	300,000	36,710	2,385,933
Park Bank	1,537,566	200,000	24,428	1,762,007
Merchants Bank and Trust Company	1,452,213	250,000	159,217	1,895,187
Traders Bank	1,333,587	200,000	10,668	1,550,426
Los Angeles Hibernian Savings Bank	1,109,047	250,000	10,167	1,369,214
National Bank of Commerce	941,228	200,000	39,274	1,377,711
United States National Bank	909,262	200,000	98,956	1,442,314
City and County Bank	559,376	121,100	24,456	704,933

Hollywood National Bank	$ 530,376	$ 25,000	$ 7,115	$ 589,019
Federal Bank	518,284	50,000	14,831	594,560
State Bank of San Pedro	364,391	25,000	23,347	429,853
First National Bank of Hollywood	360,790	25,000	14,885	432,844
Bank of San Pedro	270,151	50,000	20,180	340,331
First National Bank of San Pedro	269,354	50,000	17,201	381,436
Citizens Savings Bank of San Pedro	268,281	25,000	14,492	307,773
Highland Park Bank	204,759	25,000	2,448	233,669
Citizens Savings Bank of Hollywood	201,008	25,000	4,731	244,139
Hollywood Savings Bank	173,906	25,000	5,793	207,421
First National Bank of Wilmington	161,938	25,000	5,900	220,422
Harbor City Savings Bank	143,431	25,000	7,589	176,770
Total	$168,340,736	$13,987,800	$11,182,479	$199,673,273

1913 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Security Trust & Savings Bank	$ 43,146,252	$ 1,791,400	$ 1,701,159	$ 46,638,811
German-American Trust & Savings Bank	19,879,566	1,000,000	1,138,052	22,082,212
Los Angeles Trust & Savings Bank	18,632,070	1,500,000	1,255,624	21,387,695
First National Bank of Los Angeles	18,554,450	1,500,000	2,388,896	23,672,090
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	14,924,592	1,500,000	2,094,098	20,190,455
Citizens National Bank	10,509,527	1,500,000	674,202	14,184,120
Merchants National Bank	7,860,866	200,000	851,975	9,151,090
Home Savings Bank	6,217,680	1,000,000	131,821	7,354,096
Hellman Commercial Trust & Savings Bank	5,466,073	750,000	360,968	6,591.770
National Bank of California	5,072,876	500,000	112,231	6,426,848
Citizens Trust and Savings Bank	3,047,049	500,000	96,547	3,650,764
Central National Bank	3,038,969	300,000	232,314	3,695,346
California Savings Bank	2,854,789	300,000	71,285	3,226,075
Commercial National Bank	2,707,552	300,000	177,346	3,763,823
International Savings and Exchange Bank	2,570,822	300,000	47,738	2,918,560
Globe Savings Bank	1,932,110	507,800	136,889	2,577,040
Los Angeles Hibernian Savings Bank	1,840,126	250,000	17,783	2,107,940
Bank of Italy	1,500,000	Branch	Branch	Branch
United States National Bank	1,276,085	200,000	101,738	1,844,198
Traders Bank	1,241,486	250,000	14,045	1,505,641
City and County Bank	758,814	200,000	38,543	1,007,577
Hollywood National Bank	607,389	25,000	17,076	684,007
Federal Bank	557,384	50,000	16,133	629,330
State Bank of San Pedro	446,442	74,900	7,547	507,359
First National Bank of Hollywood	350,729	25,000	17,817	428,172
Bank of San Pedro	316,924	50,000	17,901	389,426
Citizens Savings Bank of San Pedro	306,920	25,000	13,216	347,675
First National Bank of San Pedro	261,792	50,000	17,666	379,458
Highland Park Bank	260,516	25,000	7,038	296,982
Citizens Savings Bank of Hollywood	253,062	25,000	9,641	288,644
Hollywood Savings Bank	207,016	25,000	4,876	243,801
Harbor City Savings Bank	192,548	25,000	10,080	228,629
First National Bank of Wilmington	133,084	25,000	6,202	193,215
Total	$176,925,577	$14,774,100	$11,788,460	$208,592,866

1914 Bank	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Security Trust & Savings Bank	$ 42,263,468	$ 1,800,000	$ 1,867,916	$ 45,931,384
German-American Trust & Savings Bank	19,913,715	1,000,000	1,213,638	22,127,353
First National Bank of Los Angeles	19,800,682	1,500,000	2,445,493	24,718,756
Los Angeles Trust & Savings Bank	17,548,245	1,500,000	1,440,792	20,729,638
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	14,740,993	1,500,000	2,069,429	19,906,888
Citizens National Bank	10,400,489	1,500,000	715,972	13,617,352
Merchants National Bank	7,326,978	1,000,000	553,524	9,517,316
Home Savings Bank	6,612,659	1,000,000	124,276	7,812,498
Hellman Commercial Trust & Savings Bank	5,223,463	750,000	313,818	6,412,987
National Bank of California	5,089,631	500,000	207,661	6,378,774
Citizens Trust and Savings Bank	3,098,922	500,000	140,000	3,919,842
Security National Bank	3,035,473	300,000	230,971	3,687,285
Los Angeles Hibernian Savings Bank	2,910,240	325,000	29,219	3,264,459
Commercial National Bank	2,861,639	300,000	179,617	3,920,370
California Savings Bank	2,700,965	300,000	74,055	3,088,240

International Savings and Exchange Bank	$ 2,697,288	$ 300,000	$ 70,609	$ 3,067,897
Bank of Italy	2,260,898	Branch	Branch	Branch
Traders Bank	1,262,513	250,000	14,325	1,526,838
United States National Bank	1,074,553	200,000	112,085	1,654,439
Hollywood National Bank	752,333	25,000	20,341	843,489
Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd	509,706	Branch	Branch	Branch
State Bank of San Pedro	483,736	80,900	7,735	575,603
First National Bank of Hollywood	372,321	25,000	22,105	453,115
Citizens Savings Bank of Hollywood	354,787	25,000	15,448	407,635
Bank of San Pedro	322,854	50,000	16,527	393,854
Citizens Savings Bank of San Pedro	314,471	25,000	12,965	355,216
Highland Park Bank	251,440	25,000	13,222	294,551
First National Bank of San Pedro	228,834	50,000	19,101	356,102
Hollywood Savings Bank	165,355	25,000	6,611	206,010
First National Bank of Wilmington	144,473	25,000	6,166	203,327
Harbor City Savings Bank	140,500	25,000	13,500	205,143
Total	$174,863,637	$14,905,900	$11,957,131	$206,084,219

1915 *Bank*	*Total Deposits*	*Capital*	*Surp. and Und. Prof.*	*Total Resources*
Security Trust & Savings Bank	$ 42,153,582	$ 1,800,000	$ 2,006,091	$ 45,959,674
First National Bank of Los Angeles	23,337,523	1,500,000	2,504,752	28,566,750
Los Angeles Trust & Savings Bank	20,628,144	1,500,000	1,599,340	23,813,585
German-American Trust & Savings Bank	20,133,493	1,000,000	1,308,973	22,460,355
Farmers and Merchants National Bank	16,430,608	1,500,000	2,063,441	21,494,047
Citizens National Bank	12,422,018	1,500,000	758,857	15,680,873
Merchants National Bank	9,057,555	1,000,000	563,167	11,299,221
Hellman Commercial Trust & Savings Bank	6,335,608	750,000	274,399	7,440,007
Home Savings Bank	6,144,062	1,000,000	45,776	7,189,838
National Bank of California	5,866,967	500,000	194,061	7,133,616
California Savings and Commercial Bank	4,319,170	650,000	73,969	5,066,926
Hibernian Savings Bank	3,924,161	350,000	64,000	4,338,161
Citizens Trust and Savings Bank	3,629,560	500,000	153,386	4,389,391
Security National Bank	3,306,297	300,000	261,543	3,987,841
Commercial National Bank	2,953,180	300,000	178,011	3,809,335
International Savings and Exchange Bank	2,737,044	300,000	92,520	3,129,564
Bank of Italy	2,682,092	Branch	Branch	Branch
United States National Bank	1,390,479	200,000	138,285	1,928,765
Hollywood National Bank	1,019,042	25,000	51,564	1,096,689
Kaspare Cohn Commercial and Savings Bank	1,015,938	300,000	2,549	1,318,631
Continental National Bank	835,719	300,000	75,000	1,237,527
Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd	588,197	Branch	Branch	575,572
State Bank of San Pedro	581,976	83,100	7,112	688,500
Citizens Savings Bank of Hollywood	462,133	25,000	23,182	511,315
First National Bank of Hollywood	428,504	25,000	25,625	505,130
First National Bank of San Pedro	324,590	50,000	15,055	452,175
Citizens Savings Bank of San Pedro	321,956	25,000	13,671	363,200
Bank of San Pedro	292,673	50,000	15,849	363,675
Highland Park Bank	244,439	25,000	14,972	284,412
Hollywood Savings Bank	218,874	25,000	6,436	251,310
Harbor City Savings Bank	174,500	25,000	15,099	213,535
First National Bank of Wilmington	132,978	25,000	5,892	192,746
Total	$194,093,078	$15,633,100	$12,552,592	$225,742,381

[In preparing the data relating to he progress of banking in Los Angeles, the compiler quickly learned that the Security Trust & Savings Bank had, through several years and with the expenditure of much time and money, gathered a large amount of statistical and other data covering the progress of Los Angeles banking for about thirty years, this collection being of rare historical value and practically impossible of duplication. This material included complete and reliable tables measuring each bank's strength through the years beginning with 1887, as well as facts regarding the organization and growth of each banking institution, past and present. Through the courtesy of officers of the Security Trust & Savings Bank the author of this history was enabled to collaborate with them and make use of this material under the agreement that this historical chapter should remain the exclusive property of the Security Trust & Savings Bank. For the reasons given, the copyright of this section stands in the name of this old institution.]

A PIONEER BANKER'S RECITAL

[The following birdseye review of San Francisco's financial history, with especial reference to the Bank of California, is contributed by a prominent and greatly honored citizen of San Francisco, who prefers to be unnamed:]

"THE ANNEXATION of California to the United States as a result of the Mexican War, the services of General Fremont and the navy, the raising of the Bear Flag at Sonoma on June 14, 1846, down to September 9, 1850, are such well known matters of history that it seems needless for me to do more than allude to them. But there are a few things connected with the early days of California and San Francisco that may prove of interest.

"For many years before the discovery of gold by Marshall at Coloma in January, 1848, Americans were here and there to be found in California. There were but two of the early pioneers with whom I had a personal acquaintance, and they were Mr. Thomas O. Larkin and Mr. George C. Yount. Mr. Yount crossed into California in pursuit of his calling as a trapper about February, 1831, and settled among the Indians in Napa Valley soon after, obtaining from the Mexican authorities a large grant of land. I remember him well. In March, 1836, came Thomas O. Larkin and Mark West, and in 1840 Peter Lassen with others.

"In August, 1822, Captain W. A. Richardson arrived in California, and in 1835 (to quote Mr. Soulé) he erected the first house of any description of dwelling in San Francisco. It was simply a large tent supported on four redwood posts and covered with a ship's foresail. In that year he was appointed first harbor master. He was the first settler in Yerba Buena. In May, 1836, Jacob Primer Leese arrived. Mr. Leese's lot, on which he erected his first home, was situated about 200 or 250 yards from the beach and is the spot where the St. Francis Hotel was subsequently erected, at the southwest corner of Dupont and Clay streets, and in eighteen years after its erection, there was a population of over fifty thousand around the spot. On the 7th day of April, 1837, Mr. Leese married a daughter of General Vallejo, and their eldest child, Rosalie Leese, was the first born in Yerba Buena. In 1838 Mr. Leese erected a large frame building on the beach, which is now the southwest corner of Commercial and Montgomery streets, and upon which the banking house of James King of William was built.

"On January 30, 1847, the name Yerba Buena was changed to San Francisco by an ordinance of the Alcalde, or Chief Magistrate, Washington A. Bartlett, who was the first Alcalde under the American flag; population 375, with a few Indians; March, 1848, population 850; February, 1849, population 2000. May 31, 1849, the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Oregon* arrived, bringing Colonel John W. Geary, the first postmaster, and with him the first regular mail from the Atlantic States. May, 1849, population 3000; July, 1849, population 5000. About September 10, 1849, the first Merchants Exchange was proposed, and in November, 1849, the Merchants' Exchange and reading room was on Washington Street. October 26, 1849, steam navigation was beginning to be adopted. Between the 1st of January, 1849, and 30th of June following, it was estimated that 15,000 persons had been added to the population of the country. Altogether nearly 40,000 people landed in San Francisco during 1849. Population of San Francisco January 1, 1851, 25,000 to 30,000; in 1853, 50,000.

"The postoffice in 1850 was at the southwest corner of Pike (now Waverly Place) and Clay streets; in 1851 and 1852 it was at the northeast corner of Dupont and Clay streets, and in 1853, on Clay Street between Dupont and Kearny, opposite Portsmouth Square. The custom house was at the northwest corner of the plaza, for which a rent of $7000 per month was paid. Wright & Company, brokers, under the name of the Miners Bank, paid for a small building on the plaza $75,000 per annum. The United States Hotel paid $36,000 per annum, and a 25-foot front store paid $40,000 per annum.

"On February 28, 1849, the steamer *California* arrived, being the first of the line of mail steamers. December 24, 1849, first great fire; loss $1,000,000.

"May 4, 1850, second great fire; loss $4,000,000. Burned district was bounded by Montgomery, Clay, Jackson, and Dupont streets, destroying almost all the property. June 14, 1850, third great fire; loss $5,000,000. September 17, 1850, fourth great fire; loss $250,000 to $500,000.

"May 4, 1851, fifth great fire; loss $10,000,000 to $12,000,000. At this fire the ship *Niantic,* moored at the northwest corner of Clay and Sansome streets, was destroyed. June 22, 1851, sixth great fire; loss $3,000,000. At the fire of May 4, 1851, the second custom house at the northwest corner of Montgomery and California streets was destroyed. The building at the northwest corner of Kearny and Washington streets was speedily fitted up and occupied as the third custom house.

"June 11, 1851, Jenkins was hanged by the Vigilance Committee at the south end of the old adobe building on the plaza.

"On September 7, 1850, H. M. Naglee suspended payment. Burgoyne & Company, James King of William, and Wells & Company nobly met the unexpected demand and kept their doors open. October 3, 1851, Wells & Company suspended payment. On July 1, 1850, there were 526 vessels lying in port, and at Benicia, Sacramento, and Stockton were 100 more square-rigged vessels.

"In May, 1849, steps were taken to build a central wharf, and when finished, it extended 2000 feet into the bay. Central Wharf was the extension of Commercial Street.

"On the 18th of October, 1850, the steamer *Oregon* arrived, bringing news of the admission of California into the Union, September 9, 1850, and October 29, 1850, was set apart to celebrate it.

"During 1850 upwards of 36,000 persons arrived by sea in San Francisco. Most of them hastened to the mines. Population of California at the time of the admission of the state into the Union was about 150,000 persons; city about 25,000 to 30,000.

"The six great fires destroyed nearly all the old landmarks of Yerba Buena. The old City Hotel, started in 1848, was destroyed by the fire of 1851.

"The residence of Samuel Brannan in 1847 was near the corner of Brenham Place and Washington Street, and near it, on Dupont Street, was the old adobe occupied by Robert A. Parker in 1847 and 1848 as a trading establishment, and in 1852 it was pulled down.

"October 4, 1851, the new Jenny Lind Theater was opened, built on the site of the old Parker House on Kearny Street, which rented for $130,000 per annum. It could comfortably seat 2000 persons. In 1852 it was purchased by the town for a city hall for the sum of $200,000; the present Hall of Justice stands on the site.

"In the early 50's the plaza, or Portsmouth Square, as it is now known, was the center of city energy, especially in the evening. On the northwest corner of Kearny and Washington streets was the Bella Union; on the northeast corner of Kearny and Washington streets was the Verandah; on the southeast corner of Kearny and Washington streets was the El Dorado, and on the northeast corner of Kearny and Clay streets was the California Exchange, all large gambling houses, and open to the general public. On the northeast corner of Kearny and Merchant streets was the Union Hotel, where I passed my first night on shore in San Francisco, the 11th of April, 1851. The proprietors were A. A. Selover, E. V. Joice, and John Middleton, with Isaac M. Hall, formerly of the Eagle Hotel at Rochester, N. Y., manager. All were well known to early San Franciscans.

"From the census taken in 1852, by authority of the Legislature, the total population of the state appeared to be 264,435, and that of the City and County of San Francisco 36,151. By the census taken toward the close of 1852, the population of the city was estimated at 42,000. That same year at the northwest corner of Montgomery and California streets, the granite building of Mr. Parrott was erected. This was occupied by Page, Bacon & Company, bankers, and by Adams & Company, express and banking. The building is yet standing and the old office of Page, Bacon & Company is now occupied by the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank. On January 20, 1854, the Express Building on the northeast corner of Montgomery and California streets was completed by Samuel Brannan, Wells Fargo & Company's Express occupying a portion of the building and in the fourth story were the California Pioneers.

"H. M. Naglee (Naglee & Sinton) established his bank January 9, 1849; Burgoyne & Company, June 5, 1849; B. Davidson about September, 1849; Thomas G. Wells (Wells & Company) about October, 1849; James King

of William, December 5, 1849; D. J. Tallant, February, 1850; Page, Bacon & Company and Felix Argenti in June, 1850. In April, 1854, the following banks were in operation, viz: Burgoyne & Company, B. Davidson, James King of William, Tallant & Wilde, Page, Bacon & Company, Adams & Company, Palmer, Cook & Company, Drexel Sather & Church, Robinson & Company, Sanders & Brenham, Carothers, Anderson & Company, and Lucas, Turner & Company, and perhaps one or two others.

"The city was first lighted with coal gas in the evening of February 11, 1854. On April 3, 1854, the United States Mint opened for business, occupying the site of the assay office of Moffatt & Company, assay contractors, and which long supplied much of the gold coinage then in circulation. The recently vacated sub-treasury is on the ground.

"The members of the firm of Page, Bacon & Company, which at the time of their failure was the leading bank, were Daniel D. Page and Henry D. Bacon at St. Louis, Judge David Chambers and Henry Haight at San Francisco, and at Sacramento F. W. Page. They had a branch at Sonora and an agency at Honolulu. The late Thomas Brown was with them in St. Louis, and he entered the service of the Bank of California October 5, 1867. In 1850 Page, Bacon & Company were on Clay Street between Montgomery and Kearny; B. Davidson on Clay Street between Montgomery and Kearny; F. Argenti, Clay Street between Dupont and Kearny; Palmer, Cook & Company in the adobe on the plaza; James King of William, southwest corner of Commercial and Montgomery streets; Wells & Company on southwest corner of Clay and Montgomery; Adams & Company, Montgomery Street between California and Sacramento; Burgoyne & Company, southwest corner of Washington and Montgomery streets. Later the banks were all removed to Montgomery Street except Palmer, Cook & Company.

"In 1853 Lucas, Turner & Company opened for business, with General W. T. Sherman as resident partner, in a building near the site later occupied by the Selby Smelting and Lead Company. They later erected the building on the northeast corner of Jackson and Montgomery streets, and at the time they withdrew from business, April 13, 1857, they were at the southeast corner of Washington and Battery streets, opposite the bank of Garrison, Morgan, Fretz & Ralston. Sather & Church removed from the northeast corner of Montgomery and Commercial streets to the southwest corner of Clay and Battery streets July 6, 1855, occupying the new banking house of Page, Bacon & Company. Parrott & Company opened September 10, 1855, and F. Argenti, Cavallier & Company, September 22, 1855. Tallant & Wilde removed to 321 Battery Street near Clay Street, and later Tallant & Company changed to the northeast corner of California and Battery streets, and John Sime & Company occupied their old place at the northwest corner of Montgomery and Clay streets. The firm consisted of John Sime, L. W. Fisher, and Benjamin Smith; the last two were former clerks of Page, Bacon & Company.

"After the failure of Page, Bacon & Company, Henry Bainbridge, Banks & Bull, Reynolds, Reese & Company, and N. Luning were at the corner of Sacramento and Leidesdorff, later at 428 California Street, and some others whose names I do not now remember opened as bankers, but soon closed. Alsop & Company and Able Guy also did a small banking business. Belloc & Company were at 524 Montgomery Street between Clay and Commercial streets. Hickox & Spear were on the northeast corner of Montgomery and Sacramento; B. Davidson & May and Gansel & Cullen were at the northwest corner of Montgomery and Commercial streets; Henry Hentch, later Hentch & Berton, were at the southwest corner of Clay and Leidesdorff streets; Seligman & Company, 412 California Street; the Bank of San Francisco, 436 California Street; the Merchants Exchange Bank, 423 California Street; the California Trust Company, 421 California Street, and later California Gold Bank and Trust Company at the northeast corner of California and Sansome streets; the Pioneer Land and Loan Association, 304 Montgomery Street, and later at southeast corner of Montgomery and California streets; California Building Loan and Savings Society, 405 California Street; Grangers Bank of California, 415 California Street, then at the northeast corner of Davis and California streets, and later at the northwest corner of California and Battery streets.

"Donohoe, Kelly & Company were at the southeast corner of Montgomery and Sacramento streets; Mark Brumagim & Company, 404 Montgomery Street; A. Borel, corner of Montgomery and Jackson streets; the Savings and Loan Society, incorporated July 23, 1857,—E. W. Burr, president, and John

Archibald, vice president,—was at 619 Clay Street, between Kearny and Montgomery, and later at 101 Montgomery Street, corner of Sutter Street.

"When I first remember the Hibernia Bank, it was on Jackson Street between Montgomery Street and Montgomery Avenue, north side. Wright's Savings Bank, at the northwest corner of Montgomery and Jackson streets, failed in 1855.

"In the early years of San Francisco, before the opening of the mint in 1854, and for many years after, the circulating medium was all gold and silver. Most of the gold was private coinage in $5, $10, $20, and $50 pieces. The assay offices of Moffatt & Company, Wass, Molitor & Company, Baldwin & Company, and Kellogg & Company were the chief distributors. The old Miners Bank also issued some gold coins. Occasionally coins from the mints of the United States would make their appearance, but they were comparatively scarce. The $50 pieces or slugs, as they were called, were very convenient in paying out large sums. They were mostly of octagon shape, although both Wass, Molitor & Company and Kellogg & Company issued round ones. The octagon coins bear the stamp of A. Humbert, United States Assayer, he having been appointed by the government to that office. In addition to the above, foreign coins, both gold and silver, circulated freely—sovereigns at $5; 20 francs, $4; 5 francs, $1—and other coins of all kinds passed, according to their size rather than for their intrinsic value.

"The regular banking rate for money was 3 per cent per month, and English exchange sold for $5 to the pound sterling and 3 per cent premium. Gold dust was bought here in large quantities, selling all the way from $12 to $18 per ounce, and even more sometimes. The usual price paid for dust from Sonora and Columbia, which was thought to be the best, was $17.40 per ounce. Oregon dust brought the lowest price. In 1849 bankers' rates were: for grain dust, $15.50 to $15.75 per ounce, and for quicksilver dust, $14.50 to $14.75 per ounce.

"The history of The Bank of California may be said to date from the organization of the firm of Garrison, Morgan, Fretz & Ralston, in the fall of 1855, after the failure of Page, Bacon & Company and other banks in that year. Their first banking room was at the southwest corner of Montgomery and Clay streets, formerly occupied by Wells & Company, bankers, but at that time the lease was held by John Perry, Jr., who very kindly surrendered it to the new firm. On December 1, 1855, Garrison, Morgan, Fretz & Ralston took possession, preparatory to opening for business on January 2, 1856. The firm consisted of C. K. Garrison of San Francisco, Charles Morgan of New York, Ralph S. Fretz and William C. Ralston of San Francisco, and the clerical force numbered five, viz: S. W. Ralston, assistant; R. C. Lawler, accountant; Thomas H. Morrison, receiving teller; William Chaloner, collector and janitor, and John Goddard Clark as paying teller, making in all nine persons connected with the bank. The capital was $700,000, of which $200,000 remained in New York and the remainder, $500,000, was safely deposited in the vault of the bank here. I feel quite sure in saying that the bank's first depositor was Arthur M. Ebbetts, lately deceased, formerly a member of the firm of Lowe, Ebbetts & Company, shipping and commission merchants on California Street.

"My first knowledge of Mr. Ralston was in 1854, when Fretz & Ralston were the agents for the opposition line of Panama steamers, the *Uncle Sam* and *Yankee Blade*. Captain Garrison was elected Mayor of San Francisco September 7, 1853, he being the fifth Mayor, and was the agent of the Nicaragua line of steamships, the *Pacific, Brother Jonathan,* and *Sierra Nevada.*

"In October, 1856, Garrison, Morgan, Fretz & Ralston were at the southwest corner of Washington and Battery streets. They continued in business until July 14, 1857. The firm then became Fretz & Ralston, Mayor Garrison and Mr. Morgan retiring. Fretz & Ralston continued until May 31, 1861. On June 1, 1861, Joseph A. Donohoe of San Francisco, Eugene Kelly of New York, Ralph S. Fretz and W. C. Ralston of San Francisco, having formed a co-partnership under the name of Donohoe, Ralston & Company, became the successors of Fretz & Ralston. On June 30, 1864, Mr. Donohoe and Mr. Kelly retired from the firm, when it again became Fretz & Ralston for a few days for the purpose of closing up the affairs of the old bank, and so remained until July 5, 1864.

"The Bank of California opened in the former room of Fretz & Ralston, southwest corner of Washington and Battery streets, with D. O. Mills president and W. C. Ralston cashier. The trustees were as follows: D. O. Mills, Louis McLane, William Norris,

John O. Earl, Herman Michels, W. C. Ralston, J. B. Thomas, Thomas Bell, A. J. Pope, O. F. Giffin, and James Whitney, Jr. On July 5, 1867, The Bank of California removed from Battery and Washington streets to their new building at the corner of California and Sansome streets, the present location. The present site was at first occupied by S. H. Williams & Company and G. B. Post as a lumber yard on the beach in 1849; afterward by Jones Hotel, and later by the Tehama House, which in 1866 was removed to 438 Broadway, between Montgomery and Kearny streets and known as the Rock House. On the lot on which recently stood H. M. Newhall & Company's building was Alden's branch restaurant, southwest corner of Sansome and Halleck streets.

"From the time of the incorporation of The Bank of California in 1864 and to 1875 it enjoyed increasing prosperity. With the suspension at that time, and the death of Mr. Ralston, together with the reopening of the bank, after only a few weeks of interruption, and its extraordinary success since, you are all more or less familiar. I will only add that Thomas Brown entered the Bank of California October 5, 1867; was appointed assistant cashier by Mr. Ralston about April 1, 1868, and was elected cashier July 8, 1873. D. O. Mills resigned as president July 8, 1873, to take effect July 15, 1873. W. C. Ralston was elected president July 8, 1873, to take effect July 15, 1873. The bank suspended August 26, 1875. Mr. Ralston resigned and died August 27, 1875.

"The first meeting of the directors was on July 6, 1864. The money was collected and paid in June 15, 1864. At the time of Mr. Ralston's death, Mr. Mills became president and William Alvord vice president, and so continued until April, 1878. At that time, upon the resignation of Mr. Mills, William Alvord was elected president. His death occurred December 21, 1904. Mr. Brown's death occurred on August 9, 1902."

BANKERS OF OLD SAN FRANCISCO

By JAMES ROLPH

[Few men have had a more intimate knowledge of affairs in California than has Honorable James Rolph. And in the following recital, under the title of "Bankers and Financiers of Old San Francisco," he has preserved a record of very great interest:]

"THE AMBITION of youth, lured and excited by the magnetic opportunities of San Francisco's future, brought me to this city in May, 1860. I was a young man, just twenty-one years of age, and I am today a young man still, just seventy-six. I can well remember my first sight of the Golden Gate and of the city of those days. Since that time I have seen the San Francisco of my dreams grow into the San Francisco of our pride. It has been a privilege and pleasure which only those few of you here who are pioneers can possibly realize.

"San Francisco, when I arrived, had a flourishing banking center for a city of 50,000 population. It included several blocks, the boundaries of which were Washington and California streets on the north and south and Battery and Kearny streets on the east and west. Most of the early banks were located on Montgomery Street between California and Washington streets.

"One of the first banks in California, before my time of course, but known by name to me, was that of Naglee & Sinton. It opened in Kearny Street January 9, 1849. Henry M. Naglee was a graduate of West Point and a lieutenant of the regular army. He came to California in 1847 as a captain in the famous Stephenson regiment. Richard H. Sinton, his partner, came on the battleship *Ohio* in 1848 as acting paymaster. Before the end of 1849, Dick Sinton, as he was called, withdrew from the firm, which continued as H. M. Naglee & Company until closed by a run September 7, 1850.

"One of the first banking institutions with which I became familiar was the firm of Sather & Church, at the northeast corner of Montgomery and Commercial streets. This bank was favorably located for the purchase of gold dust and had done a very heavy business in gold dust in the days when the California mines were at their best. The bank was at the shore end of the so-called 'Long Wharf,' which ran down Commercial Street from Leidesdorff Street to the bay. The river steamers arrived at this wharf in the early morning hours. Much of the gold dust was brought to San Francisco in these steamers. James S. Hutchinson was connected with the bank. It was his custom to sleep in the bank building and, alert for business, to arise in the early morning and be on hand to welcome the miners with their bags of gold dust to be exchanged for the gold coins of the day. In this way the firm did a lucrative business, buying gold dust at about $14 an ounce, before its less ambitious competitors had even breakfasted. Mr. Hutchinson, although he is 89 years old, is still hale and hearty, living at his home in this city.

"James King of William, whose murder by James P. Casey was one of the causes for the rise of the Vigilance Committee of 1856, was a banker who began business in 1849. His son, Joseph L. King, is still living in our city. The express companies of Page, Bacon & Company, Adams & Company, and Wells, Fargo & Company began to do a banking business soon after the gold discoveries in 1849, and extended their operations into all the mining camps of the state.

"In 1857 the first banking corporation was organized, the Savings and Loan Society, founded three years before by Albert Miller and 'Honest Harry' Meiggs. It opened for business with E. W. Burr president and Albert Miller vice president. In 1859 the Hibernia Savings and Loan Society was organized and among the incorporators were D. J. O'Callaghan, C. D. O'Sullivan, R. J. Tobin, N. K. Masten, Edward Martin, and John Sullivan.

"The most stirring times within my recollection of San Francisco banking, however, were those of the days of the great development of the Comstock lode, which was discovered in 1859, just before my arrival. Out of these mines came the millions which produced the group of bankers and financiers

known as the bonanza kings, and which gave San Francisco a period of banking activity that far exceeded that of the earlier days, when placer mining was at its best.

"In any retrospect of the bankers and financiers of old San Francisco, the most dramatic figure is that of William C. Ralston. He was one of the most energetic men imaginable. He was of medium height, stocky, always alert, and began life as a clerk on a Mississippi River steamboat. That experience must have given him a training that served him in later life.

"He entered the banking business of Garrison, Morgan, Fretz & Ralston as a partner in 1855. Later he became cashier of the Bank of California when his old firm of Fretz & Ralston had been merged into that bank. When D. O. Mills resigned, in 1873, Ralston became its president. For fifteen years he was the dominant figure of California, for San Francisco was California in those days, and possibly no man ever dominated this city, from a financial and commercial standpoint, so long or so completely or so popularly as did Ralston.

"Ralston had a memory that ran to details, and yet in all his business dealings he seemed to shun them. When a business proposition was placed before him he grasped it long before it was completely told him. His answer was generally short and sharp. He asked a brief question, insisted upon an explicit answer, gave his decision in a word, and turned to something else. His enterprise was boundless. He was concerned with the affairs of many corporations. He handled a watch factory over in Berkeley. He was the moving spirit of the West Coast Furniture Company. He bought the old Mission Woolen Mills. He was heavily interested in the Grand Hotel and the Palace Hotel. He speculated in real estate and was a shareholder in many San Francisco enterprises.

"He knew practically every man in San Francisco. It was his custom to walk into a factory, go about among the men, slapping this one on the back, shaking hands with every one, and calling practically every man by his first name. He was universally popular. How this popularity followed him even beyond the time of his tragic death I shall tell you in a moment, after I have given, very briefly, one or two of the other salient characteristics of this remarkable man.

"Ralston's name is intimately connected with the story of the Comstock mines and the bonanza kings of California and Nevada. But even among these giants of fortune and finance he was a leader. He assumed the leadership of every situation that came to hand. At a dinner, he carved. If a member of a driving party, he always held the reins. He carried this faculty for leadership into affairs involving millions, and often the very commercial destinies of San Francisco's greatest business concerns. Necessarily, he was a familiar figure in San Francisco.

"To this day I can see Ralston on the box of a brightly painted tally-ho, the reins of a six-horse team in one hand, cracking the whip as he left the Bank of California, driving a company of his friends to his beautiful country place at Belmont. This was almost a daily occurrence, and became an exciting sporting event at one time, when Ralston had a falling out with the San Francisco and San Jose Railway Company and set out every afternoon to beat the time of the train by relaying his teams at points along the old San Bruno road, taking with him, day after day, brilliant companies of friends, who enjoyed his open-handed hospitality and were sorry when the fight with the railway company was over. It was an even bet whether he could drive faster than the engineer.

"The story of Ralston's last days would, in itself, make an ample subject for such a discourse as this. I believe I might almost say that the week following the closing of the Bank of California, August 26, 1875, and the death of Ralston, which occurred on the following day, was the most exciting that San Francisco has ever known, and I scarcely exclude the week of the great fire of 1906.

"Each of the bonanza kings maintained an elaborate secret service in the Comstock mines. Sharon, for instance, represented Ralston in Virginia City, and had reports from men underground concerning every move that was made in the drifts. Ralston became convinced, from secret information and tips which he had, that the bonanza territory reached over and included the Ophir mine. He plunged enormously in Ophir, but it was discovered later that the Ophir mine was not a great bonanza. The bonanza did not reach this ground. A collapse came. With many irons in the fire, Ralston turned over his property, 'real, personal, or mixed, wherever situated,' to William Sharon, who had himself grown

into a financial giant. Two days later the Bank of California closed its doors.

"Then followed Ralston's death, with an expose of the condition of the bank's affairs, and wild scenes of public excitement as the whole population of the city surged about the doors of the embarrassed institution.

"I wish, while recalling only thus briefly the memory of this banker among financiers, to dispel an impression which I find widely circulated among our people—the impression that Ralston committed suicide by drowning himself in the waters of San Francisco Bay. Intimately acquainted with the man and the details, I have no hesitancy in saying that William C. Ralston did not take his life. Circumstances, however, gave rise to this impression. He had been humiliated by a demand for his resignation as president of the bank. The board of directors had refused to listen to his suggestions for its rehabilitation, and when, at this critical time, the news of his death reached the city, these circumstances gave rise to the unfortunate story. The facts are these:

"After leaving the bank Ralston went out to his city residence on Pine Street, chatted with those whom he met, and went down, as was his frequent custom, to swim in the bay near the foot of Hyde Street. He chatted with the keeper of the bath house, donned his bathing suit, and joked with several boys who were at the beach as he went out into the water. He struck out, but not farther than usual from the shore. Suddenly it was seen that he was in difficulty. His face was downward, he was struggling in the water, and a nearby boatman dragged him from the bay while he was still alive. On shore he was put through the old and foolish performance of being rolled over a barrel, and when a doctor came he was pronounced dead. But the doctor stated emphatically that he was not drowned, but had died from a stroke of apoplexy.

"On the following day the storm broke. The real condition of the bank's affairs was known. Day after day the crowds were about the bank. How the bank was quickly rehabilitated is another story, but it remains to be said, in closing my remarks about Mr. Ralston, that his funeral was the greatest that was ever known in San Francisco. It was a great and spontaneous outpouring of men and women of this city, who were packed into Union Square to say a last and long farewell to William C. Ralston.

"Ralston's name inevitably brings to mind that of William Sharon. Sharon was a small, nervous man, with a great deal of natural shrewdness and business force—quite a unique type of man. He was sent up to the mines by Ralston, where he was immediately a success. Keen-witted, he saw the opportunities of mining speculation and got on the inside. He had his emissaries in the mines in the way of foreman, diamond drill man, and so on, always seeking 'inside information,' and he very soon amassed an extremely large fortune, principally through the discovering of the great ore body in the Belcher mine. He and Ralston were both in on that. Ralston had great confidence in him to the time of his death. They were very close friends and their destinies closely interwoven.

"Sharon was a tremendous poker player. He had rooms over the bank in Virginia City. The games there ran high. A story of the day is typical of the times and of the men involved. A friend of Ralston came down and told him that his agent in Virginia City was filling the inhabitants with astonishment at the size of his poker games. He thought Ralston should be warned. Ralston snapped, in his decisive way, 'Does he win or lose?' 'Well,' replied the friend, 'I understand he usually wins.' 'Then I didn't misjudge him,' said Ralston.

"Sharon was successful in his financial operations to the end of his life. He and Ralston were partners as William Sharon & Company, and built the Palace Hotel. After the death of Ralston, Sharon engaged in many enterprises around San Francisco and played a large part in rehabilitating the Bank of California and finishing the Palace. He kept up his interest in things to the very end, and died leaving an estate which, at the time, was estimated at between fifteen and twenty million dollars.

"Any one familiar with California Street during the sixties could not fail to remember J. Mora Moss, head of the banking firm of Pioche, Bayerque & Company, vice president of the gas company, and president of the Russian-American Commercial Company. His courtly presence and scholarly attainments made him conspicuous in any company. He was a great admirer of Mr. Ralston, with whom he was associated in many charitable affairs.

"D. O. Mills was a stalwart figure, a man of gentlemanly and gracious appearance and dignified bearing. He started in the banking

business in Sacramento in the fall of 1850, under the firm name of D. O. Mills & Company, still in existence, and claimed to be the oldest bank in continuous existence in the state. Mr. Mills became a millionaire by strict observance of sound business rules. No banker stood higher in the community, and his good name became noted throughout the entire financial world. It was a stroke of great wisdom on the part of the founders of the Bank of California when they secured Mr. Mills to act as its first president in 1864, and it was very largely because Mr. Mills had consented to accept the position of president again to help rehabilitate the bank that the institution was reopened within six weeks after its doors had closed.

"William Alvord followed D. O. Mills as president of the Bank of California, and was once Mayor of San Francisco. He was a genial man, quiet, kindly, and of a pronounced gentlemanly type. He was president of the Pacific Rolling Mills, held responsible positions in other industrial enterprises, and was a sterling citizen, universally respected.

"Thomas Brown was a prominent figure in banking circles from 1867 to the time of his death in 1902. A fine representative of the Western banker, a sort of rough diamond, reticent in his ways, he inspired confidence by his indomitable will and good judgment. When necessary he could enhance his remarks with very strong language. His opinion on matters relating to banking was highly prized and he was certainly a very popular banker. Joseph Donohoe, Eugene Kelly, Norman D. Rideout, George E. Goodman, and James R. Kelly are among the builders of early California banking history of whom much might be said in praise and admiration.

"Daniel Meyer was a very popular banker. He came here in 1851 or 1852 and started in the tobacco business. He became a banker in 1857. He had brothers connected with him in the business, but the co-partnership was carried on under the name of Daniel Meyer only. He was a keen operator in business, but unostentatious and genial in all his ways, and was gifted with a good deal of dry humor. He was a philanthropist, giving away large sums of money in a quiet way. During the Civil War he was a big operator in government securities. He was also a great buyer of state and county bonds and warrants.

"It is said that Daniel Meyer, several years before starting in the banking business, kept an account with one of the early banks and was surprised one day to have his check returned with the statement, 'No funds.' He started immediately for the bank. 'What does this mean?' he inquired. The banker replied, 'Mr. Meyer, your account is all right, but we have no funds to meet it.' Mr. Meyer lived to the good old age of 87, and passed away mourned by a host of warm, devoted friends.

"A most characteristic figure of the time of which we are speaking was that of Lloyd Tevis, who ranked high in both financial and social circles. He and his partner, J. B. Haggin, first engaged in loaning money, at which time Tevis was known as 'Old Three Per Cent.' That period, however, soon passed. He gained the confidence of the entire community.

"Another of our early-day characters was Michael Reese, familiarly known as the time as 'Mike' Reese. Early years of poverty had made him so careful of expenditure that when he attained great wealth, he found it extremely painful to separate himself from even so small a coin as a 'short-bit.' At the same time he could sign a check for a million without a quiver. He was possessed of great strength, brawny, and steady of nerve. I met him frequently. I can almost see him now. During his earlier years in San Francisco, when the Sheriff had a particularly dangerous arrest to make, he was in the habit of making Mike Reese a member of his posse. Reese would calmly descend into the most dangerous dens and seize the criminal in his mighty grasp in the midst of his comrades. This same man would step into Saulman's restaurant in California Street, walk up to a table where the waiters cut the bread, gather up a plateful of discarded pieces, and eat them with a cup of coffee. It would require a greater effort to hand the waiter a 'short-bit' for the meal than to drag out the most dangerous character from the midst of his gang.

"J. C. Flood and W. S. O'Brien, commonly known as the 'bonanza firm,' loomed into financial prominence in 1870. They kept the old 'Auction Lunch' until an accident led them into the stock market, where, in less than five years, they took rank among the richest men. With their mining partners, J. W. Mackay and J. G. Fair of Virginia City, they started the Nevada Bank in 1875, now merged into the Wells Fargo-Nevada

National Bank, under the control of Isaias W. Hellman. Flood's name and the starting of the Nevada Bank recall an old story, which for a time was the joke of the town. It involved both Flood and Ralston, and though both of them subsequently denied its truth, the story is as good as though it really had been true. Flood had large deposits in the Bank of California. He presented himself one morning and demanded his money. 'When do you want it?' Ralston is quoted as asking. 'Right now,' said Flood, according to our story. 'What are you going to do with it?' said Ralston. 'Start a bank of my own,' snapped Flood. 'Well, if that is the way you are going to act, I'll have you back selling whiskey before you know it,' was Ralston's quick reply. Then came the answer that made the story a joke in San Francisco. Flood is quoted as saying: 'Mr. Ralston, if I ever sell any more whiskey, it will be over the counters of the Bank of California.' Flood got his money, and the Nevada Bank was started in 1875.

"The Low Brothers were in the banking business at Marysville in the early fifties. F. F. Low, one of the brothers, was subsequently honored in public life and banking circles in San Francisco, and was for several years one of the managers of the Anglo-Californian Bank, now the Anglo, London & Paris National Bank. He was Governor of the state for a term, Superintendent of the United States Mint in San Francisco, and Minister to China.

"Many of you remember John Parrott. He was American Consul at Mazatlan when gold was discovered in California. Though he brought much money with him, he increased his capital many fold. Besides making advances to merchants, he made judicious investments in real estate, bringing him in large rentals and a fortune.

"Milton S. Latham was prominent in his day in this state. A lawyer by profession, he became Collector of the Port, Governor, and United States Senator. He was for several years manager of the London and San Francisco Bank.

"I must speak of James G. Fair, one of the bonanza kings. Fair had a wonderful mind, which he seldom spoke. He kept his own counsel. Rich as Crœsus, he took a keen delight in the handling of his millions, making always more millions. It may be remembered how the narrow-gauge line was built to Santa Cruz. Millions were put into the enterprise. None knew whence they came. The Southern Pacific Railroad, fearing some great Eastern road might be entering its preserves, bought out the new competitor at an immense figure, and Fair sat back and laughed at many of his business associates who were connected with the Southern Pacific. He it was who bought the 300 acres largely included within the walls of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. Much of it was under water. There were sand hills along Van Ness Avenue. Contracts were secured for grading these, and, while the town speculated as to who was the promotor, the Fair seawell was built from Webster Street to Baker. More than 6,000,000 yards of sand were dumped into this property, and Fair's name did not appear till the work was over and he had avoided the possibility that the owners of the sand lots, instead of paying for the grading, might have held up the millionaire for the sand which he used as a filler.

"Isaias W. Hellman is one of our most substantial financiers. In earlier years he confined his operations mainly to Los Angeles and its vicinity, and is still the head of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, a leading bank of that city. After the death of Mr. Ralston he became very prominent in all banking affairs in San Francisco, and is now one of the chief bankers in this city. While a resident in Los Angeles, Mr. Hellman, however, had large financial transactions in San Francisco. He accommodated the business community with large sums of money. I know him well, and I wish him the enjoyment of his ripe old age for many honored years to come.

"Thinking thus of Mr. Hellman, there comes to my mind my other good old friends—Homer S. King and A. W. Foster, for whom I have equally good wishes. Homer King's life has been so reputable and his achievements in banking so distinguished that I regard him as one of our most valued Californian bankers. His career has reflected credit upon himself."

CALIFORNIA BANKERS' ASSOCIATION

By R. M. WELCH

In response to an invitation issued by the Los Angeles Clearing House to the bankers of the state, representatives from seventy banks met in that city on March 11, 1891, and organized the California Bankers' Association.

The purposes for which it was organized were declared to be "to promote the general welfare and usefulness of banks and banking institutions, and to secure uniformity of action, together with the practical benefits to be derived from personal acquaintances and from the discussion of subjects of importance to the banking and commercial interests of this state, especially in order to secure the proper consideration of questions regarding the financial usages, customs, and laws which affect the banking interests of the entire state and for protection against loss by crime."

Mr. Thomas Brown of the Bank of California at San Francisco was elected its first president; Mr. I. W. Hellman, Sr., of the then Nevada Bank of San Francisco, vice president; Mr. G. W. Kline of the First National Bank of San Francisco, treasurer, and Mr. George H. Stewart of the Los Angeles County Bank, secretary. The members of the executive council chosen were: For one year, W. M. Eddy of Santa Barbara, T. S. Hawkins of Hollister, W. D. Woolwine of San Diego; for two years, A. D. Childress of Los Angeles, N. D. Rideout of Sacramento, Lovell White of San Francisco; for three years, C. E. Palmer of Oakland, W. W. Phillips of Fresno, A. L. Seligman of San Francisco. The council elected Mr. Childress its chairman.

This convention was regarded as held for organization purposes only, and the first formal convention of the association was scheduled for the following October at San Francisco. When the delegates convened the secretary was able to report that of the 246 banks then existing in the state, 150 were enrolled as members of the association. A very lively interest in the new association was manifested, especially by the bankers of San Francisco, who were most generous in the entertainment extended to the visiting bankers. It included an excursion to the Stanford University at Palo Alto, when the bankers were received by Governor and Mrs. Stanford, and also a banquet at the Palace Hotel, which in the lavishness of its menu and decorations, was one of the notable functions of this character which had up to that time been given in San Francisco.

A convocation of bankers at that time was distinctly a novelty, and appealed to the humorous side of the local press, which treated the proceedings in that vein. When a year later the association met in San Francisco coincidently with the annual convention of the American Bankers' Association the proceedings were treated in a like manner, greatly to the annoyance and displeasure of that exceedingly dignified body, the American Association, whose members left here with very unpleasant impressions of their reception. Eleven years later the American Bankers were again induced to visit San Francisco, and then conditions were entirely different.

The convention of 1893 was to have been held at Fresno, but the panic of that memorable year dispelled all disposition on the part of the bankers to desert their places of business, and the holding of that year's convention was abandoned. With the close of the year the more acute state of the panic having passed, the time was considered opportune for bankers to get together and compare their experiences. The Midwinter Fair then in progress at San Francisco also was had in view as affording diversion. Accordingly on February 22, 1894, representatives of the member banks met at San Francisco for the third convention of the association. The proceedings were not especially notable, but the San Francisco Clearing House had by recent action abolished the system of overdrafts as to all depositors. Mr. I. W. Hellman, the president of the association, referred to it in his address as follows:

"A lasting benefit, which is the direct result of the panic, is the new regulation of the associated banks of San Francisco

which does away with the old system of overdrafts, probably the most dangerous feature of our Western banking system—a custom which had nothing to recommend it, and one contrary to all sound banking principles."

This action affected the interior banks in that it had been their custom to get accommodation for their seasonal needs from their city correspondents on open account as needed, and now it was proposed to require the banks to make definite provision for their needs by executing their notes for the sums required, which would then be placed at their disposal. The objection of the borrowing banks was that they would be paying interest on money in advance of its use. By request a meeting of the interior banks with the representatives of the clearing house was arranged, but without result as to any change of the new regulation.

For a while the conventions of the association were held at somewhat irregular intervals. This was influenced by the seasonal conditions of the various localities desiring to entertain the association. Some could be visited to greater advantage in the spring and others in the fall of the year. Thus, the convention of 1895 was not held until October, because of the interest attaching to the viticultural industry, the principal feature of the country surrounding Fresno, the place of the convention, and which could then be seen to the best advantage. As a convention in the spring of 1896 would follow too closely on one in the fall of 1895, the spring of 1897 was fixed as the time for accepting the invitation of Los Angeles to hold the next convention in that city, it being the most delightful season of the year for visiting Southern California.

The next, the sixth convention, was held at San Francisco in the fall of 1898, and for like reasons as had prevailed in fixing the dates of the conventions of Fresno and Los Angeles, the next convention went over to the spring of 1900, because that was the most desirable season for visiting Sacramento, the convention city. Successive conventions have been held in the spring, as that has seemed to be the most generally convenient season for bankers to get together, and it has always been possible to find localities that were then attractive. The exception has been the convention of 1903, held at San Francisco coincidently with that of the American Bankers' Association in October. It was but a perfunctory and unimportant assemblage, being overshadowed by that of the American Bankers. It was followed by the convention of 1904 at Los Angeles. No convention was held in 1906 because of the San Francisco disaster, which occurred about the time set for the convention of that year at Santa Barbara. The convention of the next year was held in that city, and since then the series has been uninterrupted.

Reviewing the proceedings of the early conventions, it is interesting to note the questions the members then considered, and the solutions that have since been reached. The silver heresy was immediately grappled with and a consistent antagonism to it maintained until it was finally disposed of through national legislation. An inter-ocean canal was an object of discussion at its organization. At the two succeeding conventions it listened to Captain W. L. Merry of this city, then the United States minister to Costa Rica and other Central American Republics, an ardent advocate of the Nicaragua route, and adopted resolutions favoring the construction of the canal along that route. The numerous issues of irrigation district bonds then being offered investors had consideration, and the San Francisco conventions of 1891 appointed a committee whose duty it should be when invited so to do by any district "to examine the land, examine all the proceedings of the district and report either in favor of or against the bonds." But one district ever availed itself of the services of this committee, and it is not of record that the committee's report thereon rendered the bonds any more salable. In fact, while the security was reported ample and the organization of the district and the proceedings authorizing the bonds regular, investors were advised to satisfy themselves through their own personal investigation. Subsequent legislation prescribing state supervision of the districts have put these bonds on a very different footing.

The convention of 1894 referred to the executive council certain needed revision of the state's banking laws suggested by Mr. J. M. Elliott of Los Angeles. The council in turn referred the subject to a sub-committee who in conjunction with the bank commissioners framed an Act which was presented to the Legislature of 1895, and was adopted. This was the beginning of the activities of the association in connection with banking legislation. The Legislature of 1903 repealed

this Act and enacted another, the principal feature of which was the increase in the number of bank commissioners from three to four. Several weeks elapsed between the repeal of the old and the enactment of the new law, during which time there was no banking law in force. Advantage was taken of this interim to organize eighty-seven banks, which it was assumed would not be amenable to any banking law that might thereafter be enacted, but any such advantage, if it could ever have been of avail, very completely disappeared in the subsequent upheaval of banking conditions and reconstruction of the law. This act was again amended at the legislative session of 1905, and again in 1907, but in what particulars need not now be considered, for conditions disclosed by the financial panic in the Fall of 1907 clearly indicated how inadequate had been all previous legislation in this behalf.

At a special session of the Legislature, convened by the governor in November of that year to deal with the emergencies arising from this panic, a joint resolution of the Senate and House was adopted creating a committee of three senators and three representatives to frame and report legislation relating to the conduct of banking in the State, to be acted upon by the next Legislature. Needed reforms of the state banking laws were largely the subject of discussion at the Pasadena convention of 1908, and a committee, for the first time styled the Legislative Committee, was appointed to co-operate with the state committee in forming the needed banking laws. It was a large committee, made up of fifteen members. J. M. Henderson, Jr. was the chairman. The result of the labors of the two committees was the Bank Act adopted by the Legislature of 1909, and although, chiefly with a view to more clearly defining its provisions, it has been amended at each succeeding session of the Legislature, it remains substantially as originally drawn.

One of the association's early activities looking to the reform of our laws was the proposal of an amendment to the state constitution exempting from taxation the bonds of the state, its counties and municipalities, the latter term intended to include, besides cities and towns, school, irrigation, and reclamation districts, in fact all bonds secured by the taxing power. It is unthinkable now that the people should have ever contemplated taxing their own borrowing power, yet when it was first submitted at the general election of 1900 it was overwhelmingly defeated. The association then commenced an active and illuminating propaganda in its behalf, and it was again submitted at the general election of 1902, when it met with little opposition. The result is that bonds of this type now enjoy the highest degree of favor with the investing public, and can be sold on the most favorable terms as to interest.

Other constitutional amendments that have been adopted at its suggestion are those repealing the vexatious and wholly ineffective tax on mortgages; permitting the deposit in banks of public moneys on adequate security being given therefor; extending the existence of corporations beyond the fifty-year limit.

Legislation of value to the banking interests obtained by the association has been a code amendment limiting to one year the period within which a depositor may commence an action against a bank to recover loss sustained through the payment by a bank of a raised or forged check; one making the penalty for the negotiating of a check on a bank, when the drawer has neither sufficient funds nor credit, imprisonment for one to fourteen years in the penitentiary; another making false statements to obtain credit a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of $500 or by six months' imprisonment in the county jail, or by both.

Twice has been obtained the passage of the uniform law of negotiable instruments, once by the Legislature of 1899, again in 1911. On both occasions it failed of approval by the governor on the ground that the law as it exists in the state is ample for all purposes of business. This leaves California, with Texas, Mississippi, Georgia, and Maine, the only states where the uniform law is not in force. Earnest efforts will be made to have the law adopted at the sessions of 1915, and approved by the governor.

Although in the declaration of the purposes of the association "protection against loss by crime" is recited, it was not until the San Jose convention of 1901 that the organization of the Protective Department was authorized. There was much opposition to it on the ground that the expense would prove to be beyond the resources of the association. This happily has not been the case. The scope and activity of the department have increased from year to year, and

the members have at all times responded willingly to the calls made upon them for its support. It is regarded as essential as any other department of the association's activities. The department takes cognizance only of attempted or successful perpetration of frauds upon a member bank by means of worthless checks, or by forgery, check raising, robbery, hold-up, or safe breaking. A case once committed to the association which results in the apprehension of the criminal, can not be taken out of its hands, nor the offense condoned or compromised. No cognizance is taken of frauds against a member committed by its employees. The sureties of the offender must be looked to in such cases.

The gentlemen who have served the association as its presidents are: Messrs. Thomas Brown, I. W. Hellman, Sr., Lovell White, N. D. Rideout, J. J. Valentine, Charles Altschul, J. M. Elliott, James K. Lynch, A. H. R. Schmidt, I. F. Moulton, G. W. Peltier, J. D. Radford, H. S. Fletcher, W. H. High, Stoddard Jess, A. E. Edwards, L. P. Behrens.

The association has had but three secretaries — George H. Stewart, 1891-3; R. M. Welch, 1893-1911, and F. H. Colburn; and but four treasurers—G. W. Kline, J. J. Fagan, George N. O'Brien, and W. H. High.

The secretary reported to the convention of 1914 a membership of 667 banks out of a total of 807 banks and bankers in the state. Of the 140 non-members, sixty are savings banks belonging to national banks that are members, and twenty-three are branch banks whose parent banks are members. This leaves but fifty-seven banks or banking offices of every type that have not joined themselves to the association.

THE SUB-TREASURY AT SAN FRANCISCO

By THOMAS P. BURNS

In the year 1835 the site of the great city of San Francisco was a nameless waste of sand. There were on the peninsula but the Presidio, a small place with about a score of Mexican soldiers, and the Mission Dolores, whose inhabitants (American) may have numbered ten. In this year, 1835, William A. Richardson, pioneer of 1822, who lived at El Sausalito, an ancient watering place for ships, and conducted a trading business between the missions and sea-going vessels, erected a ship's sail on four redwood posts, the first description of dwellings in our now great city, on the land which was afterwards known as DuPont Street, now Grant Avenue, on the west side, between Clay and Washington. No person was allowed by the Mexican authorities to approach or build closer to the beach, afterwards Montgomery Street.

In 1836 Jacob P. Leese erected a frame building, the first in Yerba Buena, as the place was called, at a spot afterwards known as the southwest corner of Clay and DuPont Streets, a short distance south of Richardson's tent. Leese was a trader, a member of the firm of Hinckley, Spear & Leese, with headquarters at Monterey. In the early part of 1838 Mr. Leese erected a large building, part wooden and part adobe, on the beach, having obtained permission and subsequently a grant of land from the Mexican Governor, Alvarado, at a point where now is the west of Montgomery Street at its intersection with Commercial Street. This house was the nucleus of the great city of San Francisco. Leese occupied it as a dwelling and store. It was a general rendezvous for the few inhabitants and the officers and men of the visiting hide and tallow and trading vessels. In 1839 John J. Vioget made the first survey of Yerba Buena, or San Francisco, and laid out the plans for its streets, few in number at that time and without names, and covering the small area between what is now known as California, Pacific, Stockton Streets and the water. And in so doing the easterly line of the lonely house, just mentioned, was selected as forming the westerly line of a street later named by the villagers Water Street, and subsequently, after the American conquest in 1846, called Montgomery Street. This main street then formed the beach of the cove. That is how Montgomery Street happened. It was so named in honor of Captain Montgomery of the United States sloop of war *Portsmouth,* who hoisted on the plaza, now Portsmouth Square, the American flag on July 8, 1846.

There was no Commercial Street until 1850. On September 8, 1841, Leese sold the said building immediately fronting the bay, and some adjoining land to the north, south, and west to the Hudson Bay Company, whose agents and people formed nearly the entire settlement for the ensuing six years. This company conveyed the premises on February 12, 1847, to William D. M. Howard, pioneer of 1839, and Henry Mellus, a pioneer of 1834. They occupied the building for some years, and in 1848-9, after the discovery of gold, did an extensive and prosperous business. The building was used in 1849-50 as a hotel, and was destroyed by fire June 14, 1850. After this fire Commercial Street was created or cut through from Montgomery to Kearny, between Clay and Sacramento Streets, by Howard and others. Commercial Street was practically a continuation of the famous Long Wharf, which extended eastwardly into the bay, from a point opposite this building mentioned, and which wharf had its head at about where now Commercial and Leidesdorff Streets intersect. This wharf was commenced by Howard and others in May, 1849, and was an important feature of the city, and in the winter of 1849-50 presented a scene of bustle and activity which has rarely been equaled elsewhere. It was the only one in the city and was the thoroughfare for communication with the vessels in the harbor, and was crowded from morning until night.

After the fire of June 14, 1850, and when Commercial Street was given a place and name, a brick building was erected immediately back of the old Leese house site and on the north side of Commercial Street,

where once was Leese's garden, about sixty feet west of Montgomery Street. This brick building was used as a private assay office.

During the session of Congress 1850-51 that body passed a law authorizing the establishment of an assay office in San Francisco. The then Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Corwin, made a contract with the firm of Curtis, Perry & Ward, sometimes known as Moffatt & Company, to commence the assaying of gold in California, which contract existed for nearly three years. But the coin manufactured by the so-called United States Assay Office was not recognized by the government as United States coin, although it circulated commercially. This office was in the building heretofore described, erected in Commercial Street, north side, about sixty feet west of Montgomery, occupying grounds about sixty feet front on Commercial and about sixty feet in depth, and was erected in the latter part of the year 1850. Augustus Humbert was the United States Assayer.

In 1853 the treasury department entered into a contract with Mr. Curtis of the said firm, under which was conveyed to the United States, for the sum of $285,000, the said lot and building which had been used in the assaying and coining business. This amount included about $25,000 for additions and extensions to the building, and the machinery went with it. And after expending about $50,000 more for machinery the result was the first United States mint in San Francisco, which commenced operations in April, 1854. It was alleged at the time of said purchase that the entire private property and plant were not worth more than $75,000

This building was known as the United States mint from 1854 to 1874. In 1867 the government acquired the property at the corner of Fifth and Mission Streets, and shortly afterwards commenced the erection of a new mint building, which was completed and occupied in 1874. In the latter year the place on Commercial Street was abandoned as a mint and, under appropriations by Congress, the walls of the old mint building were torn down and the structure reconstructed for the sub-treasurer and other government officers, the idea being that as it was the only piece of government real estate available, it should be so utilized. There seemed at the time to be no disposition to acquire other property for the purpose in a more up-to-date or dignified locality. This explains why such an important office as the receiving and disbursing storehouse of the government funds, known as the Branch United States Treasury or Sub-Treasury, was relegated to the now obscure and narrow street where this institution was so long located.

From 1854 to 1866 the office of the Assistant Treasurer was in the old mint, but on account of the cramped condition and crowded quarters at the mint the sub-treasury was forced to occupy offices and vault in a portion of the building then located on the east side of Montgomery Street, just south of Sacramento, in rented quarters, for which $600 per month were paid from 1866 to 1877, when the old mint site was occupied as a sub-treasury from October, 1877, to April 18, 1906, when the building was destroyed in the big earthquake and fire. The treasury vaults withstood any serious damage and preserved their contents safely. After April 18, 1906, the sub-treasury was in temporary quarters in the United States mint at Fifth and Mission Streets, although its moneys, $34,000,000, were still stored in the vaults in the ruins on Commercial Street. These ruins, after restoration, were occupied as a sub-treasury, on March 2, 1907, and the sub-treasury remained there until the completion of the new building at the corner of Sansome and Pine Streets. This new building, a model in every respect, was first opened for business as a sub-treasury of the United States, May 17, 1915. The removal of the $100,000,000 in cash from the old building to the new occupied nearly three months of unostentatious activity and was effected without the loss of a penny.

The following is a list of assistant treasurers at San Francisco:

Jacob R. Snider, 1853 to 1861.

David W. Cheeseman, 1861 to 1868.

Charles W. Felton (afterwards United States Senator for California), 1868 to 1873.

William Sherman, 1873 to 1881.

Nathan W. Spaulding, 1881 to 1885.

Samuel H. Brooks, 1885 to 1890.

John P. Jackson, 1890 to 1894.

Campbell P. Berry, 1894 to 1898.

Julius Jacob, 1898 to 1907.

William C. Ralston, August 1, 1907, to September 8, 1913.

William J. McGee, September 8, 1913, to date.

The following officiated at the sub-treasury in the dual capacity of cashier and acting assistant treasurer:

L. Hammond, 1853 to 1856.
H. A. Palmer, 1857 to 1861.
F. G. Bornemann, 1861 to 1885.
John C. Maynard, 1885 to 1886.
Thomas P. Burns, 1886 to 1915.

In August, 1892, the sub-treasury at San Francisco shipped to the sub-treasury at New York $20,000,000 of gold, one of the largest shipments of money ever transferred at one time. The money was put up in 500 boxes of $40,000 to each box, and sealed and sent under the auspices of the postoffice department by registered mail in a special train of five cars with fifty guards, and went through in record time. This train was hired by the government for the purpose, at a cost not exceeding $5000, including all expenses. The guards were regular employes of the government. The shipment reached its destination without loss or incident worth mentioning. If it had been through regular transportation channels at the usual rate charged the cost would have been at least $20,000.

BANKING IN THE TRANSITION PERIOD

By JAMES K. LYNCH

[Some interesting descriptive and critical notes on banking conditions and banking practice in San Francisco and the state in the transition period of the '70s and '80s have been given in recent years in addresses before bankers' conventions by James K. Lynch, vice president of the First National Bank of San Francisco. Extracts from three of these addresses are given place here because of their permanent historical value. The paper first quoted from was a presidential address to the California Bankers' Association in 1907.]

"LET US CONSIDER for a moment the halcyon days of the later seventies. Interest was figured at the end of the month by pointing off two places. There were a few cases where one-quarter of this result was added, and a very few where one-sixth was deducted, to obtain the correct result. These variations were not approved by the clerks, and 1 per cent per month was looked on as the normal rate, with which fine distinctions as to the number of days in the month could be ignored. When rates were cut to 8 and 9 per cent a year, it was felt that we were falling on evil days; and 7 per cent looked like ruin. The bookkeepers collected nearly as much interest as the note tellers, and red ink was an important item in the expense account.

"Then we had three kinds of currency: Gold, always the California standard, was the basis of calculation, as of business; greenbacks, fluctuating between eighty and ninety, and silver, around ninety. Many of the merchants kept accounts in all three currencies. The bank messengers were provided daily with rates at which they could accept currency and silver in the settlement of drafts, and the collecting of a small account often involved intricate calculating —as well as the usual inspection for plugged coins and counterfeits. Greenbacks and silver were objects of barter and sale, and it was poor trading that could not rake off a quarter of 1 per cent going and coming. Gold exchange on New York was sold at a fixed rate of 50 cents a hundred, while the express company charged 37½ cents for shipping the coin. The resulting profit of 12½ cents was looked on as very small, but it was sure, and there was no cutting of rates.

"Receiving tellers accepted nothing but coin, or checks on city banks. Out-of-town items were sent for collection, proceeds credited when received, and always less a charge, whether or not the country banker had taken toll. There was no foolishness about 'par points' and 'par lists,' and the size of the balance carried was not considered a reason for waiving a charge. As was very justly pointed out, this would have been, in fact, paying interest, and it is needless to say that interest was not paid to banks or to others.

"Do not misunderstand me. The managers of the banks were, after all, human, and when millionaire depositors appeared tremblingly before them to obtain rebates of small charges, their prayers were sometimes granted. I am speaking only of the general rule which governed the outer office.

"What has become of these many sources of revenue? Where are the good two-name papers, discounted at 10 per cent per annum? Where are the snows of yester year?

"I have spoken of the commercial banks, largely from experience, and I wish that your former president, the veteran cashier of the San Francisco Savings Union, were here to add a word for the savings banks. All that I know of them is derived from a small deposit account, on which I was paid interest at the rate of 7 per cent—and didn't think it very liberal, either. What they charged borrowers I have no idea, but it was probably regulated by their consciences and such dignified competition as existed at the time, and was possibly in the vicinity of 10 per cent per annum. I have been speaking of what may be called the end of the pioneer days. The Central Pacific Railway had really ended them. But conditions persist sometimes after the cause is removed. The government resumed specie payments and redeemed the surplus silver, and two sources of income departed. Then came the struggle over the 'new' constitution—new

then, but somewhat old and battered now. It was not a very wise piece of legislation, though we have grown used to it and reconciled, if not attached; but it is difficult now to understand the dread and horror which it occasioned. An announcement that after a certain date the sun would no longer shed his beams on California could not have created more consternation. Like most legislation, its effect on business was much less than its friends hoped or its enemies feared. Things went on in the same old way. The sun shone, the grain ripened, and the fog came in before the western wind as it had always done. But the effect of the scare was real and lasting. Some of our capitalists scuttled off to New York. Those that stayed behind were afraid to use or invest their money, and from a banker's standpoint there was literally 'nothing doing.' When the bolder ones began to come out of their holes and look about for loans, high rates of interest had gone. Here again I am speaking in general terms. There may have been a few pieces of paper in circulation bearing more than 6 per cent interest, but I let the statement stand.

"In the eighties came the settlement (I had almost said the discovery) of Southern California, and a great development in banking, modeled more closely on Eastern standards. National banks, heretofore in a lonesome minority, became more numerous throughout the state. In spite of lower rates, business prospered amazingly, until, in the nineties came a time of reaction, natural enough, and perhaps of no great moment had it not coincided with similar troubles in the Eastern states and throughout the world, and also with freak notions of finance. The combination was unfortunate, and we can congratulate ourselves that we came through so well. The gradual recovery from the consequent depression, the renewed activity, and the rush with which prosperity swept over us are too recent to need description.

"No doubt some of you are saying, 'Why rake up the dead and buried past?' Certainly to no purpose if we can not learn some lesson from its remains. Memory is a deceitful jade, fond of spreading a rosy veil over the past, which hides the ugly quagmires and swamps, and shows us only the smiling valleys and wooded hills. We had better seek some more accurate source of information before making up our minds as to its beauties. Let us take down the dusty ledgers in which the record of those years is kept, and see what they have to tell us. The profit-and-loss account shows no undue expansion to correspond with the swollen rates. In fact, it is decidedly meager, and the entries are by no means all on the right side. There were losses as well as gains. The deposits look small. In fact, compared with recent statements, we were hardly banking. We were loaning our capital and carrying our deposits in the vault. Perhaps it was not in spite of, but because of, lower rates that business has prospered since. And the money-changing —did it really pay for the annoyance, vexation, and loss of time it occasioned? Decidedly not. Every banker who had that experience knows that a sound currency that is based on value and that does not fluctuate is best for the merchant, best for the bank, and best of all for the man who earns his daily wage by his daily toil.

"This is the lesson which I think the past has to teach us: That all artificial restrictions on trade are bad, even when they afford opportunity for profit; and that a low rate of interest, on a large volume of loans, is in the end the most profitable. It is only another way of saying that the bank prospers as the community prospers."

IN THE SEVENTIES

The following observations on banking during the period dealt with in the foregoing extracts comprise the introductory portion of an address contrasting modern tendencies with that older time, delivered before the Arizona Bankers' Association at its 1909 convention:

"Though still able to persuade myself that I am a young man, my banking training was begun under conditions radically different from those that exist today. Then the president and cashier wrote all the letters. I have sometimes, when I am wishing over the new moon, wished that I could have preserved one of the books in which I copied our president's letters. Written in a hand that was as plain as print, graceful and easy in expression, not a word lacking that was needed to make the meaning clear and not a word more than was necessary, they would serve as models to the men brought up on typewriters, where the idea prevails that talk is cheap and that the stenographer must be kept busy.

"There were no short cuts in bookkeeping; every transaction was entered in the journal and posted to the ledger, while every account was extended daily on the

balance sheet. Every remittance item and every collection was registered in the greatest detail. Carbon copies were unknown, and the adding machine was a dream. The telephone was little more than a toy, and no one thought of using it on any matter of importance.

"Now a metropolitan bank at certain hours is unpleasantly like a machine shop. Typewriters clatter, adding machines click and clank, listing machines add their trifle to the racket, the addressograph has its own peculiar noise, the coin counter gives an imitation of a corn sheller, telephone bells of every tone—from cow to sleigh—ring without cessation; while, for variety's sake, we have the exhaust of the pneumatic carriers. Only the dictograph and the telautograph work noiselessly.

"There was a time when I resented the advent of the machine; now I welcome it. It seemed as if it belittled the men to get machines that could do their work, while now we recognize that it is degrading to keep a man at drudgery that can better be done by mechanism. If any one will invent a machine that will loan money with a guaranteed maximum percentage of loss—less than our experience—we are prepared to adopt it. I sometimes think that we used to work a great deal harder than the youngsters do now; but, on second thoughts, I realize that we had less to do. If the typewriter sometimes leads to wordiness it also makes possible adequate response by an official to every inquiry that comes to the bank.

"The various direct entry balance books—together with the adding machines—have much reduced the minimum balance that will show a profit on an account, and so have added greatly to the bank deposits, at the same time enlarging the circle of those to whom the banks may render service. In the older days the small account was distinctly not welcome. It used to be said of a New York bank president that his chief duty was to sit in a back room and drive away business. If not strictly true, there was certainly much to give color of truth to the statement. Now, if not found on the floor, those same presidents are certainly very accessible, and it has to be a small account, indeed, that is not acceptable.

"The old time bank president was a man who held himself a little apart from his fellows and maintained a dignity of appearance and cultivated a certain reserve of manner, while his dress was professional like that of the doctor and the clergyman. As a boy I can remember a few last survivals, but now we can see them only on the stage, where they seem almost as remote as the men in powdered periwigs, laced coats, and knee breeches. So short a time it has taken for the transition from hand to machine work in a business as conservative as banking. With the advent of the machine many of the old traditions have been swept away; the banker no longer tries to separate himself from his fellows by his dress; he advertises, he openly or covertly solicits (most of us prefer to say invites) business, and he desires to be considered simply as a business man conducting a highly specialized branch of commercial business. We can not doubt that the community profits by the change, and that the closer relations and more intimate and cordial meetings work for the common good. Yet, have we not lost something in the transition? The account that was finally opened with the old time bank, after compliance with all due forms and ceremonials, was a valued possession, and the relation established between the banker and his client was apt to last a lifetime. Now the easily opened account may be as quickly closed, and the union prove no more permanent than matrimonial relations similarly begun.

"The things I have mentioned are only the drift on the surface of the current; deeper down there are more important changes. One of these is the tendency to increased capitalization which is everywhere manifest. Only a few years ago the largest bank capital in New York was $5,000,000; now there are three banks in that city with a capital and surplus in excess of $25,000,000, while throughout the lesser financial centers there are many banks with a capital and surplus exceeding $5,000,000. This change has been made necessary by the great commercial development of the country; and, particularly by the growth of large corporations. The big capital earns smaller dividends for the shareholders, but it gives greater security to the depositors, and is evidently receiving more attention from the discriminating bank customer. The law in California has even fixed the ratio between deposits and capital at ten to one, though the necessity for further increase of capital stops when $1,000,000 capital and

surplus is provided; just why no one can say.

"Perhaps the most significant drift in the current of modern tendencies is toward the regulation of the banking business by law, an extreme example of which is to be found in the California Bank Act of 1909. This law has received warm commendation from many quarters, and its friends point out that its leading features are taken from the laws of other states, particularly New York, Ohio, and Michigan, so that it may be fairly regarded as representative. The act bristles with restrictions and penalties, and, as one of the speakers at the last convention of the California Bankers' Association put it, 'It divides the banker's work into felonies and misdemeanors.' To my mind its worst feature is that it classes acts that are only unwise, or inexpedient under certain conditions, with those that are legally and morally wrong, and in doing so tends to blunt the sense of discrimination. No banker can complain of the most severe penalties for wrong doing, and, as a body, we should lend our influence towards the prompt enforcement of such penalties, but to find acts which are not wrong put in the list of crimes is apt to warp the moral sense.

"The strong point in this law is the establishment of the office of Superintendent of Banks, with ample power to discipline any concern conducting its affairs in a manner contrary to the principle of sound banking. Its weakness is the attempt to prescribe in detail rules for conduct of affairs which should be left absolutely to the discretion of the superintendent.

"The source of its strength is the National Banking Act; its weakness is the vice of all modern legislation. Were the constitution of the United States to be written today it would probably be a book as large as the family Bible. Had the National Banking Act been prepared at leisure instead of as a measure to help finance the country through the Civil War, it might not have been the strong simple instrument that it is. Or, should we not credit its distinguished author with a large mindedness which enabled him to see that room must be left for growth, and that the past should not be allowed to bind the hands of the future? We are too apt to think wisdom was born and will die with us. Perhaps some of the simplicity is also due to the fact that the typewriter had not yet been invented.

"What the public is really looking for is some system that will do away with the necessity for discrimination in dealing with banks; that will make all banks equally good and equally safe, and that is just what can never be accomplished except through and by the exercise of an intelligent discrimination on the part of depositors. Laws should prescribe, and examinations can determine, that banks are not started without adequate capital, and that their operations are kept within certain well-defined limits; but, without the co-operation of the community in rewarding the prudent banker by bestowing business, and in penalizing the imprudent banker by withholding it, the ideal condition will never be reached."

FRONTIER BANKING

What has been given from the pen of this experienced San Francisco banker may be appropriately supplemented by the following paragraphs from an address on "Frontier Banking" to the Texas Bankers' Association in 1916, when Mr. Lynch was the president of the American Bankers' Association:

" 'Frontier' is a word that is used in more than one sense—first, to designate the land along the border, and, second, to describe the conditions that prevail, or used to prevail, in border territory; and it is as the adjective, and not as the noun, that I wish to consider it in connection with banking. Not so many years ago California was a frontier, and frontier conditions prevailed even in her largest city. It happens that when, as a boy, I began the business which I am still following, through getting a job as messenger in a San Francisco bank, those conditions still existed. I do not mean to say that our best citizens tucked their trousers into their boots, or wore Colt's forty-fives in their belts, but one per cent a month was the ruling rate of interest; both are frontier customs, and the interest habit has outlasted the revolver habit in many places.

"I do not recall that there was any more complaint about the rate of 12 per cent than there is now over 4 per cent as the compensation for the use of money; borrowers are always prone to think the rate too high, as lenders are to consider it

unreasonably low, and the difference is adjusted by the operations of the law of supply and demand, a law which up to date has not been repealed. The rate of 12 per cent was, in fact, a reduction from much higher rates which had prevailed, while at the time of which I am speaking there were pieces of paper still circulating bearing 15, 18, and 24 per cent per annum, very clearly expressed on their faces. Business was adjusted to such rates; prices were high and profits were large, and the only thing that was in any degree small was the volume. It was the completion of the Central Pacific Railroad, or rather its junction with the Union Pacific, completing a transcontinental line, which marked the end of pioneer days and destroyed frontier conditions in San Francisco. This did not come about at once, and there was no definite day on which you could say that it had begun, or that the process was finished; but, looking back, it is easy to see how definite was the change. Rates of 10 per cent per annum began to appear, then 9, 8, 7, 6, and after a period of business depression, the close bargainer with good security was able to borrow money at 4 per cent, while some of the savings banks were still paying 6 per cent on deposits. During the time of high rates, the statements published by the banks disclosed deposits but little larger than, and in some cases less than, their capital. Profits were not large, if we consider net profits, because losses were large, and it is only out of net profits that dividends can be paid. As the rates for money declined, the deposits increased —not that there is any relation of cause and effect between the two, but because the increase of population and the gradual development of the resources of the country produced capital which quickly manifests itself as bank deposits. No combination of banks could have held rates up when capital began to increase beyond the immediate needs of the community, any more than a combination could have reduced rates when borrowers were eager for loans.

"The frontier condition is characterized by a scanty population, by an abundance of opportunity, and by a scarcity of capital. San Francisco was almost founded on the gold produced in the mines of California, and gold is the most convertible form in which wealth can be produced. The gold miner looks for no market for his product; every one is willing to take it from him, everything he desires can be exchanged for it, and yet gold itself is not capital, or perhaps it would be more correct to say that it is not fixed, that it is too fluid and too much attracted by the places that have wealth in other forms, luxuries and pleasures, to exchange for it. Gold alone did not reduce interest rates, or they would have dropped in the '50s when it was being most abundantly and cheaply produced. Rates took the drop which I have mentioned in the '80s, when the production of gold had greatly diminished.

"The fact is that the accumulation of capital is a slow process, made up of the development of the resources of the soil and the gradual fixing of the capital in buildings and all the appliances that minister to the comfort and happiness of men.

"The expenditure of money in large quantities will build a city in a desert, but the permanence of the city will depend on the extent to which it can minister to human needs. The 'ghost cities of Nevada' are cases in point, and some of the Alaska mining towns seem destined to become ghosts before many years have passed. The development of prosperous industries with a settled population, and the consequent accumulation of capital in both fixed and liquid form, are the factors that insure the regulation of interest in the way the borrower wants it regulated, downward. There has been no change in the California laws on the subject of interest; 7 per cent is the rate established, where no rate is fixed by contract, and any rate contracted for is legal; yet rates have dropped from, let us say, 12 per cent to 5 per cent on about the same grade of loans.

"There are still frontier communities in California, up in the mountains, out in the desert mining camps, where frontier conditions prevail and where frontier rates are charged, and if such rates were not charged, the banks would be very short lived. But let one of these communities cease to be a camp and become a city, through improved transportation, the development of irrigation with the attendant permanence of population, and other banks are started. Does our pioneer banker enjoy the special regard of the community, and is he able to charge rates above those which the newcomers are offering? I will not ask for the answer; you have already numbered it among the foolish questions, quite unworthy of consideration."

A FEW REMINISCENCES

In all the story of Financial California nothing is more interesting than the manner in which the bankers of San Francisco handled their affairs through the period following the earthquake and fire. In view of that fact, this graphic bit of descriptive writing by Mr. James K. Lynch, vice president of the First National Bank, will be particularly welcome:

"On April 18, 1906, the City of San Francisco took fire and in three days it was burned—most thoroughly and systematically burned—the fire returning on the third day to wipe out any neglected spots, like a tidy housewife going over corners. The hotels, churches, banks, insurance offices, clubs, saloons, all public meeting places, and the best of the private residences, as well as all the leading stores and shops, were obliterated.

"On May 18, 1906, the banks returned to their old locations, and opened for business on May 21. Much had been done in the meantime, and all under great difficulties.

"On Monday following the fire the clearing house had a meeting at the residence of Mr. Daniel Meyer, later one at the residence of Mrs. Eleanor Martin, after which the house of Mr. Henry T. Scott was chosen as the regular meeting place, where daily sessions were held, and after a short time daily clearings took place. The banks opened temporary offices, generally in the homes of some of their directors who were kind enough to allow such use. The First National Bank was so favored by Mr. John A. Hooper, and for nearly four weeks did business in the parlors and in the spacious hallway of his house on Laguna Street. For a short time this was about the center of the financial district, and when funds had been transferred from New York through the United States Mint (the only financial institution left in San Francisco), a good deal of business was transacted under the limited payments authorized by the clearing house rule.

"During this period the daily meetings at the clearing house were attended by many prominent people. Mr. Harriman, president of the Southern Pacific Company, made a most inspiring talk. A prominent attorney, famed for his eloquence, outlined a plan by which the funds for the rebuilding of the city should be furnished through an issue of bonds by the United States government. It was no wilder than many suggested plans with which the air was filled. Mr. W. C. Patterson came as a representative of the Los Angeles Clearing House, and made helpful suggestions. He afterwards told me that he had never before met such a thoroughly dispirited lot of men, and he evidently did not realize that we were not yet recovered from the knockout blow we had received. We appeared to be conscious, but really our brains were in a fog, and our actions were those of automatons.

"The First National Bank Building was a massive brick and stone structure with wooden beams and floors above the first floor. This floor was of steel beams, strongly braced with cross beams, and filled in with concrete. This construction was specially designed to protect the safe deposit vaults in the basement, and it fully justified the architect, as the contents of the vaults were entirely unharmed.

"The bank vaults on the first floor were, however, in a different case. The bank's record books and vouchers for over thirty years had been stored in the attic, and these, together with many law libraries and the debris of the five wooden floors and partitions, fell to the first floor and were consumed until the lack of oxygen stopped active burning, leaving smouldering material which only waited an influx of air to burst into flame.

"After the fire the bank walls were standing, but roofless, and in the center of this chimney was a pile of ashes perhaps fifteen feet high, sloping down to four feet, where it crossed the doors of the two vaults, devoted to records and cash, respectively.

"Eight days after the fire a force of men, consisting of some of the bank's clerks and a miscellaneous bunch of laborers, working with shovels, hoes, and wheelbarrows, got the vault doors clear, and they were still red hot at the bottom. The shattered walls were broken off by wire cables operated by donkey engines, the floor was finally cleared, a shack of corrugated iron and

tongue-and-groove boards was put up inside the old walls, rough desks were made by the carpenters, and we were ready for the opening in line with the other banks. We had many object lessons of the danger of opening the vaults too soon, and this was left to the last. The bolts being immovable, 'frozen' fast, there was nothing for it but to strip the doors, plate by plate. Two experienced men swinging sledges night and day for two days, accomplished this, and at last the vaults were open. The sight was a sorrowful one! The books seemed to have shrunk. Nothing was absolutely destroyed, but nothing was usable, the paper varying in color from a 'light black' to a rich '*cafe au lait*' color, and all of it ready to go to pieces under careless handling.

"As this was not to be a story of the fire, but only the telling of an unusual banking incident growing out of it, I will not relate the trials and vexations we had to endure until all the current records were transcribed, the currency redeemed, and the bonds reissued, but I will mention that there was nothing in the vaults that could not be deciphered.

"To come to the incident: The temperature that had prevailed in the vaults was in some measure indicated by the fact that the solder holding the tin document boxes together had all melted. The box which held over $400,000 worth of checks for the clearing house was in this condition, and the checks were shrunk to an almost unbelievably small compass—dry, brittle, and lifeless. Anticipating something of the sort, we had procured a stock of onion skin paper from Los Angeles, and also a good supply of photographic paste. The clerks spread out the checks and reinforced each one with a backing of the paper, which made it possible to handle them without danger of destruction.

"The face of the checks was now legible, but the backs were a blank. As a matter of fact, one effect of the heat had been to obliterate the rubber stamp ink, where made with aniline colors, so that many of the checks were quite without indorsement. The black carbon ink, however, stood perfectly.

"The question as to what was to be done with the unindorsed checks was soon presented. They were made out to all kinds of firms, corporations, and individuals, some of whom were our customers and known to us, but many, naturally enough, quite unknown.

"The clearing house rule which permitted an officer of a bank member to supply a missing indorsement occurred to me. The indorsements were all missing and the answer was easy. I borrowed an indelible pencil (a pen not serving on the reinforced checks), and the rest of the day my part of the work was to supply missing indorsements. I read the face of the check, and whatever name I saw there I wrote on the back, adding 'By James K. Lynch, V. P.' It mattered not whether it was the Southern Pacific Company, the Standard Oil, or Andrew Carnegie, I held a general power of attorney for them all.

"Some of the boys shook their heads over this lawless procedure and said: 'What will we do if the banks won't pay these checks?' And I said: 'We will decide that when we come to it.' But the banks did pay the checks. We were only a degree worse off than our neighbors, and we all had to give and take.

"For we had come back, recovered our punch. The worst had happened, and we were still alive. Trifles did not worry us. We had too many big things on hand. We worked hard and slept sound, facing the future with a serene confidence that San Francisco was going to be better, bigger, and more beautiful than ever, and that we were going to help make her so."

EARLY DAYS IN SACRAMENTO

Perhaps no résumé of the banking history of Sacramento could better describe conditions at that center of early activity than the following letter from Mr. Frank Miller, long cashier of the National Bank of D. O. Mills & Company and now retired to his beautiful home in Hillcrest Road, Berkeley. Mr. Miller now is out of business, but holds large interests in Oregon timber. He is a trustee and assistant treasurer of Stanford University. Mr. Miller has kindly taken the time to supply Financial California with the following paper:

"A very young man was cashier of a bank in Buffalo, State of New York, in 1848, and gave up that position, purchased a stock of flour and groceries, and landed in Sacramento in 1849. He had a cheap journal, which is preserved in the Mills Building in New York City, wherein he recorded the sales of his goods, and then and there began

the accounts of the private banking firm of D. O. Mills & Company.

"Page, Bacon & Company, the Adams Express Company, and the Wells Fargo Express Company were the great bankers of those days, and bought more gold dust and shipped more gold bars to the East than the two small banks, known as B. F. Hastings & Company and D. O. Mills & Company. All have retired from the field in Sacramento except the last named.

"Interest rates were as high as 24 per cent per annum, but the loans were for short terms, in moderate sums, and without security.

"In 1857 Sutter's Fort was in ruins, hulks of old sea-going brigs lined the water front, against which the *Chin-du-Wan* and the *Chrysopolis,* and other boats from San Francisco Bay tied themselves, and upon which they landed boxes and bales. These were placed in huge wagons. Three wagons made a train. Six or eight mules bearing many bells were hitched to each train, and away they went to the mines with bells jangling. The driver sat upon the nigh wheeler, and had a single line to the nigh leader who knew the tugs of that line as well as the motorman knows the conductor's bell.

"There was but one railroad in the state —some twenty miles to Folsom, where mining was greatly in evidence. 'Steamer Day' was the important day in the business calendar, for no other way (except by the emigrant trail) of communication with the East existed. Two or three times each month the big steamer would leave San Francisco for Panama. Bankers issued drafts on New York in sets of three (first, second, and third of exchange) and often worked all night in receiving and shipping dust and bars and issuing drafts.

"Those were the days of manual labor. Pen and ink, black sand, wafers, copying press, and express stamps were in every bank. Sealing wax and candles were in great use; also bags of all sizes were common, from the small leather bag which would hold 'flour dust' up to the big canvas sacks which were needed for large bars.

"There were but two holidays — New Year's and the Fourth of July. On the first day of the year everybody called on everybody else, and it was a day of jubilee. The national holiday saw all the bankers and merchants in parade as volunteer firemen, while others used anvils and ancient carronades of Spanish make for firing salutes. The explosions sometimes took off arms, too.

"Prior to 1860 gold was king. Later wheat became sovereign. The farmer was a safer loan-risk than the miner. Interest rates in 1865 were 15 per cent per annum, and then dropped to 12 per cent. There was a beautiful simplicity in figuring interest in those days. Multiply the dollars by the days, and point off three figures; then divide by three. This to be done at the end of each month, and yet some did compute both the first and last days when reckoning partial payments.

"The flood waters of the combined Sacramento and American rivers swept away the levees and ruined the capital city in 1860, whereupon a handful of the merchants, who could not raise half a million dollars, began to build the Central Pacific Railroad. This preposterous scheme was derided by everybody who had traveled across the plains and acquired any common sense. At that time I was very young, and ever since I have wondered how that crazy project started. Finally I have come to the conclusion, usually a wise one, that the women began it. The facts are these:

"In 1860 there were a few dozen married men in Sacramento whose wives were with them, living in cloth and paper houses, and developing that intense pioneer instinct which has made California what it is, and what it is going to be. These wives encouraged their husbands to stay in Sacramento and not to run away from a little water. If they stayed then, the men would have to do something, and so they did it. Without home ties these men would have wandered away to other adventures. Even now it seems to me that San Francisco, without its women, would have been slow to sweep away the ashes and rebuild. In the contests of war and peace which will certainly rage upon the Pacific Coast in the future, the men will rise to the standard set by their wives. Therefore, say I, long live the girls, for they will go through fire and water with the men they love!

"The ancient debt of Sacramento for building levees became so burdensome that the interest remained unpaid for a dozen years. Judge H. O. Beatty got a little money from the city and formed a commission which bought bonds at 30 cents, and collected interest thereon, and bought more bonds, and kept the funds so revolving that he and Sparrow Smith finally had all the

bonds in two tin boxes. The bonds were burned, but I hope the boxes remain for they would be the only relics of a great achievement, while a monument should have been erected to Beatty's memory.

"The transferring of gold and silver from county treasurers to the State Treasury, and the return thereof to warrant holders, was a large business, and must be still larger. It was done by main strength. Every bit had to come to the center in hard money, and then be carried out again. I remember taking about two tons of gold coin—say $1,250,000—from the bank to the state capitol on a truck. The hauling took an hour, and cost $10. During my ride on the top of the sacks I computed the interest on the money for that hour to be $17, and offered the driver to pay him $10 or the interest, keeping the latter figure secret, but he was not a business man.

"Alas! The good old days are gone, and I am out of the running. Is it true that nowadays the banker has to be more of a lawyer than a banker, and rather more of a politician than a lawyer?"

RECOLLECTIONS OF '49

Personal reminiscences being in order, it will be profitable to present here an interview with James Hutchinson, long identified with the banking firm of Drexel, Sather & Church.

"I came here in 1849," said Mr. Hutchinson. "The bay at that time came as far as Leidesdorff street, and it seems to me it was always at Sansome. Pedar Sather was a Norwegian, I think. E. W. Church was a Jersey man. They had been money-brokers in New York, and when the California excitement began concluded to come to the Coast to try their fortunes. They came, and got a little shanty at the edge of the bay, on Washington Street, perhaps between Battery and Sansome. Their building was on piles, and at high tide they were directly over the water. They had a big iron safe in which valuables were kept at night. The shanty burned, and the safe fell into the bay. It was recovered, and its contents were found to be wholly unharmed.

"The firm then bought thirty by fifty feet at Montgomery and Commercial streets of W. D. M. Howard and put up a three-story brick building. Their office was on the first floor. It was not Commercial Street at the time, because that street had not been opened. But the 'Long Wharf' was already in process of construction, and it ultimately reached 2000 feet out into the bay. The business of the firm was mainly the buying of gold dust. I slept in the office and opened up in the morning. Mr. Church taught me to buy, and when the miners came in on the morning boat from Sacramento I always aimed to meet them. They were anxious to sell their gold dust, and I bought a great deal of it at $14 an ounce. I remember that one morning I bought $10,000 worth of dust before Mr. Church came down to the office.

"Shortly after our firm had established itself, Francis M. Drexel of Philadelphia came to San Francisco. He was a very rich man, and the founder of the Drexel fortunes of that city. He believed the city and the Coast in general had a great future, and he entered into a partnership with Sather & Church. But he was an old man at the time, and his sons, active in banking in Philadelphia, were suspicious of the California style of doing business. So that Mr. Drexel presently withdrew from the firm. The business grew, however, Sather & Church continuing and developing more and more the features of the bank. Mr. Church died, and Sather continued the business alone. I had married a sister of Mrs. Church, and Mr. Sather suggested the idea of taking me into partnership. This suggestion was the more readily made because of the death of Pedar Sather, Jr., on whom his father had fixed his ambitions. I became a member of the firm of Sather & Company, and was in active management of the business for a long time. Mr. Sather was ill for more than a year, and finally died. E. B. Mastick, A. J. Ralston, and myself were made executors. Mr. Sather's will permitted us to wind up the business or continue it. We continued for some time, I still retaining the management. Then the plan was proposed to organize the Sather Banking Company and stock in the concern was offered for sale. It found ready buyers, and I was made manager, with J. L. M. Shepherd as president.

"The bank was compelled to close when the *Central America,* a ship carrying considerable of our treasure, went down. But we treated every one right, all depositors getting their balances, and we opened again and were successful. We were at Clay and Battery streets when we closed, and reopened at Commercial and Montgomery."

J. M. ELLIOTT'S RECOLLECTIONS

One of the men who has made banking in Los Angeles the splendid structure of today is J. M. Elliott, chairman of the board of the First National Bank. He is a native of Savannah, Ga., and came to Los Angeles early in the '70s. He was employed in the Los Angeles County Bank from 1874 till 1880, in the later years as secretary and cashier. In 1881, he in company with a number of other business men organized and established the First National Bank. Under another name it had had a previous existence as a commercial bank and dated from 1877, but the reorganization and the nationalization came at the date of Mr. Elliott's association with it. He states modestly that he was employed as "a kind of expert accountant" at first. He was cashier in 1885 and then president from 1892 until 1916. When he became associated with the First National it had $100,000 capital, $50,000 surplus and $600,000 on deposit. The bank was then on the east side of Main Street, opposite Temple. That was the center of the city at the time. The Farmers and Merchants was the big bank of the day when the First National was organized, and owed its prestige and success to the integrity and ability of the Hellmans, who were its chief stockholders and controlling officers.

There were only three banks in Los Angeles in 1881. The only railroad reaching that city was the rather decrepit line connecting it with San Francisco. There was very little tourist travel, and a small quantity of oranges were being shipped. But the people of Los Angeles had begun to realize what their country was going to be, and a railroad to the East, across the Arizona desert, was also in process of construction. The population in 1880 was 14,000. One of the disastrous banking failures of Los Angeles was that of Temple & Workman. It closed its doors in 1875, as did nearly every other banking house in California.

The lack of State supervision caused this private banking house to be liquidated under the United States bankrupt laws, with the result that some of the most valuable real estate in Los Angeles County was sacrificed for a pitiful sum, and that many of the promissory notes in the bank's assets, which were sold at auction for one-tenth of 1 per cent of their face value were collected in full by the purchasers when times improved.

The First National changed its location in 1902 to Second and Spring streets, which was considered a rather long step toward the country. At that time it had deposits of $2,700,000, and in the succeeding four and a half years, without consolidation with any other concern, the deposits rose to $7,500,000. In explaining the growth, Mr. Elliott says simply:

"We got into the right location, and I suppose had earned a reputation for progressiveness and fair dealing. We did not do any advertising nor increase our capital."

When asked for some reminiscences in his long career, Mr. Elliott said:

"It was a year or two previous to 1880, when times were still very hard, following the depression of 1875, when one day at noon I found myself in sole charge of the bank. I was approached by three native Californians and a Frenchman. Two of the former were members of well known families, one of them being an attorney, who introduced the man I did not know as a friend of his, who had a San Francisco draft which he wished cashed.

"On examination I found they had a certificate of deposit of the First National Bank of San Francisco, the signatures on which I knew to be genuine, and as the attorney stated that he was also willing to indorse for his friend, and as I understood the Frenchman, who was a liveryman, to say that he was selling him a horse, I paid over the amount, $2400.

"Only a few minutes elapsed when the sheriff dropped in on me, saying that he had some intimation that a fraud had been perpetrated on me, and a close examination of the certificate revealed that the name of the payee had been slightly altered. Thinking that the liveryman's corral would be the place where the party might be found, the officer and myself hurried in that direction, but instead of going into the corral we took the opposite side of the street, and when directly across we could look into the yard, where we saw the whole party, with a fine horse ready saddled.

"We walked straight across and up to the waiting quartette, when I claimed that something was wrong with the transaction, and that we must have the money returned. Instantly there was an indignant protest, but the sheriff deftly unbuckled the belt of the man about to mount the horse, thus disarming him.

"The result was that part of the money was recovered from the principal criminal, who had stolen the certificate from the San Diego postoffice. A lesser sum was found in the possession of the attorney, whose part was the changing of the name of the payee and falsely identifying the thief. The principal, after his conviction and sentence of seven years, told the sheriff that if we had given him a half minute more to get on his horse he would have killed both of us rather than be apprehended. The attorney was released on $4000 bail, which he forfeited and left for Mexico.

"In 1881, being then in another business, I was asked to come into the First National, to reorganize the bookkeeping system. This engaged my attention for thirteen hours a day, the whole force, including the officers, being four men and a boy.

"One day the president asked me to arrange for shipment to Washington for redemption a package of mutilated currency. Glancing at it I saw the edge of a $10 bill projecting from its center which I recognized as counterfeit. I told him this, and after taking the package and examining it added that the department would return a check for $990 and this one note branded as worthless. The president was doubtful. To his eyes the bill was as good as any of the others. However, he entered in his notebook the number of the bill I had designated and when the returns from Washington confirmed my judgment, he asked me for an explanation. 'It is simple enough,' I answered him, 'when I received my first month's salary in a bank in Savannah, Ga., the teller paid me off largely in counterfeit bills, which I accepted without question as good. He called me back, however, and showed me the tests. Since then my eye criticises instantly every piece of engraving, and it at once recognized the defects in the "X" on the margin of the projecting bill.' After this incident he required me to examine all paper money deposited.

"Let us skip some thirty years, and come down to the day after the organization of the Federal Reserve Bank in San Francisco. A stranger, a lady, calls at my office, opens her purse, and spreading a $10 bill of this bank bearing my signature on my desk, she said, 'I see by the papers, and this bill, that you can make all the money you want, and I have come to sell you the lot on Blank Street which I own, the price of which is $32,000.' I tried to explain the functions of the Federal Reserve system, disclaimed any ability on my part to increase my riches through its help, but without making any impression, for as she withdrew she turned and said, 'If you will make it $31,000 cash I will accept.'

"A bright young man interviewed me. He said, 'I have been working on a salary of $75 per month and now I have concluded to go with my wife and the babies to Inyo County to take up a desert claim. I see this new bank is to make money plenty and I want $500 for a few years to buy a team and give us a start.' I told him that Myron Herrick, retiring Ambassador to France, was writing a book on 'Farm Credits,' the issuance of which I was awaiting with deep interest, in order that I might learn just how such loans as he desired could be safely made."

SAN DIEGO BANKING INCIDENTS

W. D. Woolwine, now vice president of the National Bank of California, Los Angeles, who has been one of the leading bankers of Southern California for many years, first in San Diego and in later years as an executive officer of different successful Los Angeles institutions, contributes the following reminiscences of banking experience in the southland during the last quarter of a century:

"I was one of the organizers and became vice president and director of the Bank of San Diego, which opened for business in March, 1888. In September of that year, this bank was merged with one of the oldest banks in the city, which occupied the most prominent corner, the motive moving the Bank of San Diego to the merger being the desire for better quarters and a central location. Our stockholders accepted stock in the other bank at a good round figure, but it was only a few months after the consolidation when it was discovered that one of the officers of the older bank had, some time prior to the merger, appropriated the funds of his bank in the aggregate amount of about $175,000 by drawing drafts on which he received the cash, and which were never entered in the records of the bank; and by checking out from inactive deposit accounts. Meantime, as he never took a vacation, but stayed 'right on the job,' he received and receipted for all returned vouchers from correspondent banks, and personally looked after reconciling the

accounts manipulated, and by a system of transfers used the money of Peter to pay Paul.

"A loan was procured from a correspondent bank in San Francisco, on the note of the bank, secured by the individual endorsement of the directors, and thus was saved what has become one of the strongest institutions in the state. It may be remarked that the entire amount due by the defaulting officer was recovered, with the possible exception of about $10,000, by the transfer of all his property, real and personal, and certain other valuable real estate contributed by a near relative.

"Some time in 1889 or 1890, the California National Bank was organized and began business in San Diego, and, as usual, was hailed with delight and given that cordial reception which is always accorded strangers who bring money into a community and start big enterprises. It was popular from the first, because of its liberality in making loans. It also financed the building of a hotel, a theater, and a cable railroad. The investments in these enterprises called for more money than that supplied by the depositors in the usual course of business, and the new financiers resorted to the issuance of certificates of deposit, sometimes sold through brokers, who received a commission, said certificates bearing interest at as high a rate as 10 per cent, and in one case, I believe, 12 per cent. They obtained the city's deposit under a sealed bid at 8 1-5 per cent per annum interest, payable monthly on daily balances.

"Naturally, this gave serious concern to the other banks, and the only end which can come in such management was that in the latter part of 1892, when I was cashier of the bank with which we consolidated, some of these certificates, of the California National Bank, bearing 10 per cent interest, were sent to us for collection, and were protested by me, then a notary public. The next morning I started for Los Angeles to provide cash against the day when they would close their doors. I had not reached Los Angeles when I received a telegram announcing that their bank had not opened its doors that morning. Arriving in Los Angeles, I sought to discount with our correspondents some of our bank's paper, but without avail. After several meetings of the Clearing House Association, the clearing house committee agreed to furnish me with $50,000 in coin, supplied by its member banks. I provided a special train and with the committee and the $50,000 left that night for San Diego. The newspapers spread abroad the report that I had taken down something near a million dollars in money, and also the members of the clearing house committee. This committee, after satisfying itself of the solvency of our bank, made announcement of the fact in the newspapers, with the result that, whereas a run had taken place the day before and was in progress when the bank closed, the deposits of our bank were greater at the close than they were at the opening. And the situation had been saved.

"The vice president of the California National had, some time prior to this, departed for Greece, where he still maintains his residence, as I believe, and the president, under indictment by the United States, committed suicide.

"Our next experience was with the panic of 1893, when the Consolidated National Bank, then the largest in San Diego, closed its doors on the 21st of June, which precipitated a run, and caused the closing of the other commercial banks, including the bank of which I was cashier, and which was as strong and solvent as any institution in the state, although it, like most other banks, had much paper that was 'good, but perfectly slow.' We set about to open the bank with as little delay as possible, and procured a quick examination by a National Bank Examiner, and reopened the bank nine days after it closed. Of those that closed during that trying time, ours was the first in the United States to reopen, and the fact was noted by the Comptroller in his report covering the panic of that year.

"Unrest, consequent on the silver craze of 1896, caused well-founded apprehension, because it was not a question of the solvency of the bank, but rather the insistent demand of the votaries of the '16 to 1' dementia for gold to be locked up, and later, with free silver, to reap a reward which was sure to come. The widespread mistrust of 1907 is so recent that it is still fresh in the memory of all. The panic and resultant paralysis of business would have stood out as the greatest, probably, in history, but for the fact that, for the first time, banks in other cities than those of the East, which had previously used the method, wisely employed clearing house certificates and scrip."

LOS ANGELES BANK SCRIP

"In the latter part of 1907," said O. M. Souden, vice president of the United States National Bank of Los Angeles, "the banks found it necessary to provide an 'elastic circulating medium.' Some one with a fertile brain coined the name 'scrip' to represent this medium. On the second day after scrip was issued by the local banks, one of our very valued clients rushed into my office and in a high state of excitement exclaimed, 'Mr. Souden, what is this scrip I hear so much about? You know, I hire only the best men. I pay them the highest wages of any merchant on the street, and in the past I have always paid them bank notes or gold, and I now serve you with notice that if you can not advance me gold with which to pay them, then my firm will discontinue doing business with your bank.'

"In addition to all the other worries that the bankers were carrying during that time, the threat made by a valued client that he would close his account added an extra burden. I realized that we were doing all that was possible under conditions as they were, and I began trying to think of some plausible story that I could tell which would appease my client's anger. I was unable to frame one on the spur of the moment, and decided to tell our client the truth, so I said: 'Mr. Blank, this bank holds your note in the sum of $25,000, and the note is past due.' Mr. Blank replied, 'Yes, you have my note and it is perfectly good. I can not pay you this moment, but within a few days my collections will be of sufficient volume to pay the note.'

"I replied, 'My dear sir, I did not ask you to pay your note today, and I don't expect you to pay the note for some time to come. I took your note, among others, to the clearing house committee last evening, and received from them a bundle of scrip which we are today paying out to the merchants and citizens of this city, and the scrip is being circulated in the factories and the stores and is being readily accepted as a medium of exchange.'

"Mr. Blank said, 'What! Did you take my note and get scrip for it?'

"I said, 'Yes.'

"'And the scrip that you received for my note is the same you sent down to my store a few moments ago?'

"I replied, 'It is the same scrip.'

"'Well,' he said, 'if there is anybody in the employ of our firm that refuses to take this scrip in the payment of his wages, he will leave our employ. And, furthermore, until I give you notice, I want you to pay each and every check drawn by our firm in scrip. I assure you I did not know the collateral that was used under the scrip. I will ask your pardon for my hasty remarks of a few moments ago.'

"I might add that after that time we paid to and upon the checks of that firm many thousands of dollars and never received a word of complaint or had a refusal to accept scrip, and I am inclined to believe the above incident is typical."

PANIC OF '93 AND RECOVERY

The effect in 1894 of the panic in the previous year shows chiefly in private banks, which were reduced in number from thirty-four to seventeen. On July 1, 1894, there were in California sixty savings banks, 166 State commercial banks, five foreign banks, thirty-five National, and seventeen private banks, with total combined resources and liabilities of $279,352,916.94, the sixteen San Francisco commercial banks having $70,766,405.33 of this amount. August 17, 1901, there were 299 banks doing business in the state, divided as follows: One hundred eighty commercial banks, fifty-six savings, twenty-one private, and forty-two National. There was a net gain in deposits in all banks in the year of $33,350,739.46. The combined resources and liabilities for 1900 were:

9 San Francisco savings banks	$138,580,835.01
47 interior banks	48,623,938.76
17 San Francisco commercial banks	87,074,810.75
163 interior commercial banks	76,915,140.15
21 private banks	2,976,474.96
42 national banks	74,752,680.66
Total	$128,923,881.09
Net increase in one year	43,621,596.08

The next five-year period shows a substantial growth in the resources of financial California. At the close of business on August 25, 1905, the total volume of combined resources and liabilities showed an increase of $300,000,000. The items are divided as follows:

12 city savings banks	$177,010,363.45
97 country savings banks	95,197,846.21
24 private banks	4,365,565.71
83 national banks	177,773,407.87
34 city commercial banks	124,864,921.09
241 country commercial banks	113,870,387.90
Total	$693,081,892.23

A SAFE DEPOSIT BOX MYSTERY

When Charles Hill, a small, pleasant-faced old gentleman, one day in 1902 rented a safe deposit box in the Union Bank of Savings of Los Angeles, no one in the world would ever have suspected that a mystery of nation-wide extent was involved in the act. Having signed the rental contract, he took possession of the box, placed therein what he wished, locked it, and went away. At intervals he came and had access to the box for a few moments and then went away. On such occasions he always had a cheery word, a flower, an orange, or some little remembrance for the attendant, but, although somewhat sociable, he never vouchsafed any information concerning himself or his doings. Finally, after some months had passed, word came one day from the Good Samaritan Hospital that Charles Hill had passed away. Among the various small personal effects found in his possession were the safe deposit box keys, a little old Bible, and a small memorandum book containing a cryptogram and various unintelligible memoranda, but nothing whatever to disclose his relationship to any one on earth. No one knew who he really was, where he came from, or whom he belonged to. The past as well as the present was absolutely blank.

In the absence of relatives, the Public Administrator took charge of the safe deposit box keys and went to the bank to ascertain the contents of the box. In the presence of witnesses the box was opened. It was found to contain a small package about the size of a large envelope wrapped in manila paper. This was opened and found to contain currency. On top was a $1000 bill. Under this another. And then another and another and another, until the Administrator, to his astonishment, had thumbed over and counted 140 $1000 United States treasury notes.

There was nothing else in the box, no instructions, no will, nor any clue whatever to indicate where the money came from, who its owner really was, or who was the rightful heir to it. But there was no difficulty in finding claimants. As soon as publicity was given to the facts, letters poured in literally by the hundreds from all parts of the United States. Uncles who had disappeared years ago, husbands who had left home never to return, brothers who had gone West to seek a fortune, and all sorts of individuals, incidents, and tragedies were described in attempts to identify the deceased as the missing relative, and to thereby establish a claim to his attractive, real-money estate. Many of the narratives bore every evidence of genuineness and of probability, some seeming almost certainly to establish the necessary facts.

Through this mass of evidence, as well as along many entirely independent lines, the Public Administrator and District Attorney conducted a Sherlock Holmes pursuit of a multitude of promising clues. Wrestling with the cryptogram in the memorandum book and microscopically examining every atom of the meager evidence available, it was possible to make but slow progress in unraveling the mystery. Repeated but unsuccessful efforts had been made to read an inscription which had once been in the front of the little old Bible, but which had almost completely faded out. After having spent most of the night on the case, the District Attorney was one morning handling the little old Bible in a fit of hopeless desperation when he happened to get the faded inscription into a peculiarly effective refracted light, which made the inscription plainer than it had ever been before. By the most intense effort he was able to decipher enough to arouse his suspicion that Charles Hill was not the correct name of the deceased. Not too greatly to lengthen the story, it may be stated briefly that following several of the possible clues which this discovery suggested resulted at last in the establishment of the fact that the decedent's true name was Salem Charles and that he hailed originally from Boston, from which place he had been absent many years. In that vicinity the rightful heirs were located, and eventually to them was distributed something considerably less than $120,000, which remained after the natural multitude of expenses had been deducted. Thus, by an infinitesimal and unsuspected margin, did this mysterious and presumably aggrieved man fail to utterly obliterate his identity and prevent his heirs from benefiting from his estate, which otherwise would have enriched the coffers of the state.

PETALUMA AND ITS BANKS

By HENRY SCHLUCKEBIER
President Petaluma National Bank

In looking backward for a period of about seventy-five years, one can hardly realize the wonderful changes which have taken place in this great State of California. From a state of wilderness, from a country inhabited by but few people, this same territory has been transformed into one of the greatest and foremost states of the union. It was the discovery of gold by Marshall in 1848 which started the human avalanche to the Coast from all corners of the earth, and which up to this time has not been discontinued. It is no longer the gold mines, however, which attract the multitudes, but our wonderful climate and the inexhaustible resources of the state. Large cities have sprung up, schools, churches, factories, and institutions too numerous to mention have been established, and the once almost valueless land now represents thousands of millions of dollars. In this transformation the banks have played a prominent part, and the larger the population grew in a certain territory the heavier became the demand on the financial institutions for the rendering of assistance and upbuilding of the country.

The land which constitutes the principal support of our City of Petaluma, situated at the head of the Petaluma River, was originally donated by the Mexican government to settlers for "services rendered to their country." Thus the Rancho Petaluma, containing fifteen square leagues, or 66,622 acres, was deeded to General M. G. Vallejo in 1843 and 1845, and in addition to this tract our territory includes three smaller grants—the Rancho Cotati, the Rancho Roblar de la Miseria, and the Laguna de San Antonio. With one or two exceptions the above territory is divided into small ranches, and its value runs well into the millions.

Petaluma, which always has been known as a good banking town, has a population of about 7000 inhabitants and, owing to low freight charges by water, is the principal shipping point of Sonoma County products. It is situated thirty-six miles north of San Francisco and is especially known on account of being the largest poultry center in the United States, besides producing considerable grain, hay, and dairy products which insure a continuous income to its people the year round.

About twenty-five factories are located here, employing many hands and disbursing large amounts of money in salary and wages. The poultry industry has grown by leaps and bounds, many tracts of land having been subdivided during the last ten years for this purpose, and to give an idea of the increase of poultry products be it stated that the shipments of eggs increased from 3,407,333 dozen in 1903 to 10,464,747 dozen in 1913, while the shipments of poultry in the same period increased from 32,535 dozen to 88,824 dozen. The production of dairy produce also gives evidence of much progress, while the importation of grain and mill foods amounts to nearly 200,000 tons annually.

Under these circumstances it is not to be wondered at that the banking business has kept abreast of the times, as will be shown by the following figures showing the increase from May, 1905, to December, 1914: Bank deposits increased from $2,358,633 to $5,179,117, loans grew from $2,542,519 to $5,140,798, and total assets from $3,758,686 to $7,200,000. All of this business was transacted by five institutions with a combined capital, surplus, and undivided profits of $1,100,000. It is not to be wondered at that the people of Petaluma feel justly proud of their banks, a feeling which is strengthened by the fact that no failure in the banking line has ever taken place in this city.

Two facts in the financial history of Petaluma may appropriately be referred to here. A train leaving Tiburon on or about the first day of May, 1906, shortly after that memorable eighteenth day of April, the date of the San Francisco earthquake and fire, carried an express car with the sum of $500,000 in gold coin to be distributed among the banks of Marin and Sonoma counties. It goes without saying that this treasure shipment was not previously advertised and was, besides, accompanied by two special guards. A considerable portion of the above sum was deposited with the Petaluma banks, increasing their cash reserve to a heretofore unknown strength. However, as results proved when the banks opened for business after the discontinuance of the legal holiday season, not a dollar was withdrawn beyond the ordinary business requirements, and the precaution thus taken was found to be unnecessary. Again, when the great crisis of 1907 made its appearance, not a dollar's worth of emergency currency was issued by the Petaluma banking institutions, a record of which we may well feel proud.

CRITICISMS BY BANK COMMISSIONERS

In some of their reports between the years 1878 and 1909 the State Bank Commissioners took occasion to make critical observations on various phases of the methods of State banks under their jurisdiction which have some interest in the light of the present day and which serve to illustrate the course of banking development and the nature of the bank supervision of that time.

The theory of the segregation of commercial and savings banking is not as new as many of the younger generation of bankers may think. This was one of the recommendations urged by the first commission in its report for 1880. It was reported that about fifty of the banks of the state incorporated under general laws and classed as commercial banks were paying interest on deposits, but nearly always on time certificates. It also found that the difficulties of the San Francisco savings banks which the commission had closed had been due to large commercial loans. Said the commissioners: "No one can dispute the fact that the qualifications required to make a successful savings bank manager are entirely different from those which should belong to the manager of a commercial bank and are seldom, if ever, united in one person. Among writers on banking law the opinion is almost uniform that savings banks and banks of discount should not even be located in the same building when they are both managed by the same officers."

The commissioners, however, took occasion to observe that, after all, several institutions had carried on this dual business very successfully, and that the success and standing of such banks as the Oakland Bank of Savings, the Stockton Savings and Loan Society, and the Commercial and Savings Bank of San Jose demonstrated that the two kinds of business really can be united with safety and success. However, it was urged that no savings bank should be allowed to make loans on personal security or do any business belonging to banks of discount.

The limiting of the size of the savings deposit account of any one person appealed to the first board of State Bank Commissioners as a very desirable step. The banks of those days received very large deposits from individuals. For instance, in 1878 the Capital Savings Bank of Sacramento reported one individual deposit of $376,000 and fifty-three deposit accounts exceeding $5000 each, amounting to over $1,000,000. The commissioners in that year, after examining this bank, made some criticism of its condition and it was stated that fear of the bank's large individual deposits was one of the main reasons why it was decided to put the bank into liquidation, which was done early in January, 1880. It was pointed out that in time of panic such large deposits were usually the first to be called for. Such deposits were often placed in savings banks by capitalists that their funds might draw interest while awaiting more profitable investment. It was recommended that the maximum amount which might be deposited by one individual in a savings bank during one year be limited to $3000. Such limitations had been made in most Eastern states.

In January, 1879, twenty savings banks owed twenty depositors over $1,000,000—an average of $50,000—and twenty banks also owed 2065 depositors $21,000,000, in sums exceeding $5000 each, or an average of over $10,000. One result of the receipts of such large deposits was to favor large loans to single persons or corporations on personal security. It was pointed out that some years previously a failed savings bank had loaned to one person over $850,000, which was not then paid and which the directors would be glad to compromise for $500,000. Another unpaid loan of $250,000 would be readily compromised at 50 per cent. Outside of the large loss to its members by the defalcation of its late manager, this corporation was mainly ruined by its large loans.

"The Odd Fellows Savings Bank lost nearly $180,000 on a loan of less than $400,000 to one person, or it would not now be in liquidation. The Masonic Savings Bank lost $224,000 through loans on one class of security, but for which it might not have been found insolvent when the commissioners examined it."

The recommendation then made by com-

missioners was that no commercial bank be permitted to loan more than 15 per cent of its paid up capital to one customer and that the limit for savings banks should be 5 per cent of the total assets.

Loans to officers and directors is an ancient theme and the following contribution to the discussion of a practice then unrestricted is from one of the reports:

"We discourage the loaning of money to flouring mills, lumber mills, and all sorts of enterprises such as fruit canning corporations, etc., without demanding ample security for the money loaned, and it is a curious fact that so far our advice in this respect whenever disregarded has always resulted in loss to the bank, sometimes sweeping away its whole reserve and in some instances even impairing its capital as well. We do all we can to discourage and prevent the officers and directors of banks from loaning the bank's money to each other. This practice is bad in itself and liable to abuse that is almost criminal. We sometimes find officers and directors of a bank partners in some extensive enterprise, of great apparent usefulness to the location in which the bank is doing business, influencing the board of directors of the bank to make big loans to this favorite enterprise without requiring security that is absolutely and beyond a doubt good. This is all wrong, and generally ends in disaster to the bank. Nine out of ten bank failures are due to abuses in this direction and the stockholders of a bank can not be too watchful of the actions of their officers and directors in this respect."

It had been the practice in the early '80s for savings banks to include accrued but unpaid interest in their estimate of assets and of the "surplus profits" out of which only the law specified that dividends of corporations might be paid. The commissioners of that time attacked the practice, securing from the Attorney-General an opinion that it was illegal, and finally bringing a suit against a prominent San Francisco savings bank to test the matter. The Supreme Court in 1887 upheld the view of the commission, and that ended the practice.

Overdrafts came in for mild and sometimes indulgent criticism now and then. The view of the commission in 1884 was expressed in the following circular to the commercial banks:

"In the reports recently filed with this board we observed a very large number of banks have greatly increased the item of 'unsecured overdrafts.' We appreciate the difficulties that would arise in the attempt to wholly prevent such advances to be made to the customers of banks, although we think great caution should be exercised in allowing overdrafts that are not secured. We would suggest that a limit should be made in each individual case and that an additional personal guarantee, in writing, should be given when the overdraft is incurred. In our examinations we find that the greater portion of worthless assets are found among the 'unsecured overdrafts,' and we desire to caution the banks against the prevailing custom of allowing them, and recommend that notes be accepted instead, when convenient or possible, where it can be done without injury to the business of the bank."

The duties of directors came to the mind of the commission in power in 1887, which urged the appointment in all banks of regular committees of directors to examine the affairs and management of the banks and added the following entertaining observation:

"It is a remarkable fact that in some of the banks having such committees the duty is rarely attempted or, if attempted, discharged in a careless and incompetent manner and not altogether from indifference or over-confidence—sometimes fear of or deference to the officers. Boards of bank directors are sometimes composed of the best men available for the purpose, and sometimes they are not—often of sheer figureheads, who are known to be such."

The commissioners early found that many institutions kept no record in writing of the appraised value of real estate mortgaged, but that, like most of their credit information, officers carried the valuations in their heads.

"The directors of these banks," said the commissioners, "have a stereotyped answer to any criticism of such neglect. 'We discussed the loan in open board and it was approved by all the directors. We do not recollect who reported the value of the mortgaged property, but it is all right.' Some of the banks adopted our suggestion at once, but others preferred to follow their own rule."

The commissioners recommended that before making any loans upon real estate banks be required to have the property appraised by at least one suitable person

and that the appraisement should be in writing and kept on file; also that the names of directors consenting to loans be recorded.

Low reserves carried by many banks was a subject of criticism from time to time through the years, but the commission existing in 1884 had higher ideas of what an adequate reserve should be than exists today, its recommendation being 30 per cent. The report of that year presents a circular sent to the commercial banks of the state calling attention to the fact that the average of cash on hand in the seventy-five commercial banks at the last report was "only 20 per cent" of deposits, or, including bank deposits, 15 per cent. Many did not show more than 10 per cent, while others carried more than the 30 per cent recommended.

Not without interest today is the criticism of the bookkeeping methods of some banks which the commission felt called upon to make at the outset of its career. The commission deemed it important to present the following advice in its second report—advice, by the way, which was repeated in some succeeding reports:

"The importance of systematic bookkeeping should never be overlooked. While as a rule prompt attention is paid to this subject, some instances have been observed by us among commercial banks where the use of the ledger was not properly understood. The ledger, as a final book of accounts, should be scrupulously kept, constantly posted, and often and periodically balanced. The habit of relying on balances made up on a card or balance book without verification by ledger is very reprehensible. The practice of making a daily balance of both general and private accounts can not be too highly recommended. If the banks are properly prepared the extra labor is very slight, and is greatly preferable to the practice of indorsing on the blank cards all payments on account of principal and interest. These indorsements upon the cards are, to a certain extent, checks upon frauds by clerks and render it unnecessary for borrowers to take receipts when they make payments."

Sympathy can not but be awakened by the plaint of the Bank Commission in one of its reports regarding the complete indifference of the Legislature to its recommendations for legislation in behalf of both itself and better bank regulation. However, the same indifference kept up for years afterward and there were three or four years when the commission could not get its reports printed.

In 1886, after the board had been in existence for nine years, the commission complained that in all of its previous reports the commissioners had over and over pointed out the necessity of some additional legislation which their experience had suggested to them would greatly add to the usefulness and efficiency of the commission.

"Yet so far not the least notice has been taken of their reports by any executive of the state or by the Legislature to which the report was submitted," the report went on. "The bankers of the state are generally nervous and uneasy when the Legislature undertakes to change or re-enact laws for their government and conduct. This is not surprising, for past experience shows that many unwise and even mischievous attempts have been made in this direction.

"The experience acquired by the workings of this commission shows that its creation has made the enactment of laws of an arbitrary character intended of themselves to control the conduct and regulations of banks by unswerving iron rules to be entirely unnecessary. The extent of the legislation which the experience of the commissioners has induced them to ask for is, in fact, trifling, but nevertheless most important in giving much more usefulness to the commission, and their suggestions will undoubtedly meet the approval of the leading bankers of the state."

The commissioners thought it idle to repeat the recommendations of former reports, but respectfully suggested that each branch of the Legislature create a committee on banks and banking to which the commission might present its recommendations.

THE NATIONAL BANK SYSTEM

The National banking system was late in establishing a foothold in California and laggard in securing the splendid development it has received in the past ten years. That no National bank was founded in California until 1871, eight years after the passage of the first National Bank Act in 1863, and seven years after the amended act of 1864, was due to the established usage requiring payments due on notes and other obligations to be made in gold coin or its equivalent. It was in recognition of this situation that Congress, in 1870, amended the National Bank Act by providing for the organization of National gold banks, whose notes should be payable in gold coin. The volume of notes permitted was limited, however, to 80 per cent of the par value of the bonds deposited, and a reserve of gold or silver coin of 25 per cent was required against outstanding circulation.

Under this provision the First National Gold Bank of San Francisco, now the First National Bank, was organized in November, 1870, and started business at the beginning of 1871. Three other Pacific Coast states had seen the organization of one National bank each, and only one, before this date, as follows: Oregon, 1866; Nevada, 1866; Idaho, 1867. Several other National gold banks followed in the state during the decade of the '70s and before the resumption of specie payments removed all occasion for banks of their distinctive character. The National Gold Bank and Trust Company followed in 1872, as a conversion of the California Trust Company. It retired in 1879. Before 1876 there were organized the First National Gold Bank of Oakland and institutions with corresponding names in Stockton, Petaluma, San Jose, and Santa Barbara, together with the Union National Gold Bank of Oakland, the First National Gold Bank of D. O. Mills & Co. of Sacramento, and the Santa Barbara County National Gold Bank of Santa Barbara. The volume of gold notes issued by these institutions reached its maximum of $2,172,000 in 1875, and after that year remained under $1,500,000. These notes were received at par, while greenbacks were at a discount. After the resumption of specie payments in 1879 all these institutions secured certificates as ordinary National banks, in accordance with an act of February 14, 1880.

The growth of the National banks of the state in number and power was comparatively slow until well into the first decade of the present century. The number did not exceed fifty until 1903, and the 100 mark was not passed until 1906. A much greater increase was recorded for the State system. Since that year the development of the system has been exceedingly rapid, until now the resources of the National banks are more than two and one-half times the commercial resources of the State system, although the latter displays overshadowing strength when the enormous deposits and resources of the savings banks and savings departments are included.

In March, 1916, the National banks of the state numbered 263 and the aggregate resources were $569,095,000. At the same time the commercial resources of 118 commercial and 207 departmental State banks were $207,251,600, out of total resources of $783,238,000 reported by the 458 banks and 100 branches belonging to the State system. It should be recorded that nearly half the total resources of the National system noted above were reported by the nine National banks of San Francisco, in which center these institutions are very strong proportionately, the commercial resources of the twenty-six State banks of the city being but $73,280,000, with $247,400,000 reported on the score of savings and trust business. The National system has also acquired great strength in Los Angeles, where the totals of nine National banks were $94,600,000 against commercial resources of $26,400,000 for the State system. Capital and surplus of California National banks amounted to $87,350,000, compared with $41,007,000 for State commercial banks and departments, and $91,587,000 for the entire State system.

One of the strong factors in the expansion of the National system in comparatively recent years has been the influx of people from Eastern states who have come to California to reside and who have been disposed to favor National banks. This in-

fluence made itself felt first and most strongly in Southern California, which has been so largely settled by Eastern people. The reduction in 1900 of the minimum required capital to $25,000 favored organization, particularly in smaller towns. The panic of 1907 may have had its influence and undoubtedly the new State banking law of 1909 has been a factor in this direction through its rigid requirements and administration, which have so much curtailed the freedom of banks in the system and diminished some comparative advantages before existing. A large part of the development of the National system has been through the conversion of State institutions. An accompanying table shows the progress of the National banking system in California from 1871 to 1914, inclusive. The report for April, 1915, shows a net increase over 1914 of one in number and of about $60,000,000 in resources.

SUMMARIZED RECORD OF THE NATIONAL BANKS OF CALIFORNIA

(In thousands of dollars)

Date	No. of Banks	Loans, Etc.	U. S. Bonds	Cash, Etc.	Capital	Surplus	Profits	Circulation	Deposits	Total Assets
1871	1	$ 852	$ 500	$ 118	$ 1,000	.....	$ 41	$ 277	$ 199	$ 1,517
1872	3	4,903	1,757	833	2,800	$ 241	122	1,366	3,144	8,068
1873	5	4,443	2,542	1,460	3,200	150	141	1,988	3,193	9,591
1874	6	6,708	2,641	1,924	3,550	244	160	2,108	5,406	12,293
1875	9	5,655	2,800	1,343	4,680	394	240	2,172	3,654	11,648
1876	9	5,462	1,794	1,142	4,700	347	167	1,414	2,499	9,403
1877	9	5,254	1,818	1,282	4,300	225	201	1,399	2,985	9,482
1878	9	5,390	1,875	1,635	4,300	285	172	1,437	3,403	10,070
1879	8	4,568	1,836	1,386	3,550	317	122	1,451	2,870	8,721
1880	10	5,058	1,964	1,521	3,150	347	178	1,502	3,873	9,681
1881	11	6,476	1,970	2,312	3,300	444	314	1,334	6,165	12,794
1882	11	7,690	2,140	2,915	3,300	519	382	1,204	7,434	13,992
1883	15	8,175	2,165	2,245	3,550	594	462	1,477	8,124	14,782
1884	15	7,519	1,593	2,006	3,550	686	420	1,347	6,531	12,840
1885	17	8,198	1,583	1,746	3,845	783	438	1,395	6,710	13,639
1886	24	12,161	1,780	3,044	5,385	908	563	1,393	11,215	20,465
1887	33	19,300	2,209	5,694	6,870	1,027	864	1,600	22,136	34,609
1888	38	19,870	2,557	4,534	8,175	1,454	1,074	1,679	18,074	32,791
1889	37	19,838	1,988	3,646	8,250	1,752	1,207	1,157	17,154	31,678
1890	37	20,568	1,819	3,421	8,475	2,179	1,102	1,188	18,236	33,410
1891	36	21,631	1,831	3,757	8,425	2,307	1,210	1,221	18,608	34,881
1892	36	19,413	1,819	3,629	8,175	2,102	1,273	1,323	16,714	31,987
1893	35	16,871	1,706	3,049	8,125	2,250	1,220	1,263	12,175	26,652
1894	34	17,891	1,756	3,436	7,775	2,337	975	1,088	14,684	29,031
1895	31	18,848	2,065	3,775	7,525	2,360	1,059	1,342	16,361	31,388
1896	31	17,453	2,101	5,137	7,525	2,536	922	1,479	16,181	31,318
1897	32	19,080	2,187	4,959	7,560	2,544	876	1,467	18,912	34,813
1898	34	24,661	3,650	9,399	10,825	3,283	1,046	1,487	28,977	51,484
1899	35	28,441	2,807	8,818	10,825	3,413	1,242	1,438	33,138	59,356
1900	38	33,029	5,373	6,996	10,998	3,636	1,763	3,858	35,195	64,417
1901	44	39,361	7,194	7,134	11,620	3,963	2,348	6,117	43,898	77,466
1902	49	45,164	8,905	10,231	12,180	4,531	2,524	7,087	53,603	92,542
1903	61	64,368	12,562	11,482	16,030	5,962	3,027	9,283	69,941	122,432
1904	75	68,761	16,501	13,728	17,963	7,265	3,858	13,852	70,567	135,340
1905	95	88,918	21,273	17,723	23,065	9,854	4,683	17,664	92,111	181,699
1906	115	127,820	30,020	23,593	25,265	12,095	4,903	21,646	130,103	254,243
1907	128	133,076	32,723	22,415	29,797	15,149	5,653	23,358	129,192	261,318
1908	143	125,975	31,628	25,805	33,795	15,206	6,945	26,252	127,567	262,217
1909	159	158,761	33,790	24,155	37,484	16,935	7,976	29,533	155,692	312,167
1910	187	211,072	39,464	28,143	48,803	24,552	12,191	35,936	202,533	407,090
1911	204	228,697	42,063	31,208	52,507	24,734	12,598	39,172	219,863	441,626
1912	231	262,334	45,135	33,666	54,521	25,907	14,220	41,861	256,169	500,466
1913	255	265,867	46,608	32,667	56,818	27,883	14,010	43,397	252,666	489,866
1914	262	279,200	45,514	23,658	57,908	28,512	15,780	45,882	272,150	508,754

CALIFORNIA TRUST COMPANIES

Trust company business as such in California had its beginning in San Francisco early in the decade of the '90s, and coincidentally with what was practically the beginning of the first period of the real expansion of this phase of American banking. As elsewhere, it was slow to establish itself in the comprehension and financial habit of the public, but in later years California trust companies achieved large success and today the state ranks seventh in the aggregate volume of trust company resources, though, of course, as elsewhere, these resources belong mainly to the commercial and savings departments of these institutions. The volume of trust business is very large but not possible of measurement.

For nearly fifty years California, and all the rest of the Pacific Coast as well, proceeded on its own financial way, oblivious of the new type of banking institution and the new form of corporate service which were slowly being evolved in a comparatively few large Eastern cities. It is relevant to recall that it was in 1822 that a corporation received the first legislative grant of power to act as trustee or executor. That corporation was the Farmers Fire Insurance and Loan Company of New York, afterward the Farmers Loan and Trust Company. The second instance was in Philadelphia in 1829. From that time to the Civil War a number of companies were incorporated to include such services in their powers, but all made banking, loaning, or insurance their main business and but few actively performed trust functions.

The idea of corporations, instead of individuals, performing such offices remained strange and attracted little attention or appreciation for half a century. During the first ten years following the Civil War the trust company idea gradually took a stronger hold, and in 1875 there were from forty to fifty such corporations established in Eastern cities. In this period the plan of combining safe deposit and banking business with the trust functions became general. During the decades of the '70s and '80s there was a fairly rapid increase of trust companies, and their growth started a movement for state supervision, which had before been lacking. During this generation the trust company was being evolved with a free adaptation to conditions and opportunities with little or no legal control. Exact statistics for this period do not exist, but estimates by worthy authorities indicate that the number of trust companies in the years given was about as follows: 1880, 34; 1885, 100; 1890, 255. The deposits in these respective years are estimated as follows: 1880, $90,000,000; 1885, $188,000,000; 1890, $336,000,000. These figures are trifling compared with those of the present day, when trust company deposits aggregate around $4,500,000,000.

The establishment and growth of the trust companies of California found an effective and definite start with the organization in 1893 of the Union Trust Company of San Francisco, which was founded by I. W. Hellman, president of the Wells Fargo Nevada National Bank, whose distinguished reputation as a conservative banker and whose financial relations with large capitalists and corporations won the confidence and favor needed by a type of institution yet really new to the financial life of the state.

The California Safe Deposit and Trust Company, however, was the initial institution of its kind and for some years before the organization of the Union Trust Company had made an ineffectual effort to popularize the trust company idea in San Francisco. This institution secured the passage by the Legislature of the first California trust company law, but accomplished little in this capacity, and after a spectacular career as a commercial and savings bank went to wreck early in the panic of 1907 with liabilities to depositors of about $9,000,000 and totals of over $12,000,000, achieving the biggest and most disgraceful bank failure in the state's history.

The California Safe Deposit and Trust Company was incorporated in April, 1882, to engage in the banking and safe deposit business and also "to accept and execute trusts of every description as may be committed to it by any person, executor, administrator, guardian, trustee, receiver, or by any corporation or any court, and in

legal manner attend to the management and settling of estates, guardianships, assignments, and receiverships."

The business and property of the California Safe Deposit Company, which had for eight years operated an extensive safe deposit plant at California and Montgomery streets, was taken over and in the following year a commercial banking business was begun. This was said to be the first incorporation of a company to do a trust business west of the Missouri River. There was no law regarding a trust business by a corporation giving special protection to trusts, and because of this and the novelty of the plan practically no headway was made with the trust feature of the business. In 1889 the Legislature was induced to pass a law giving powers to certain corporations to act in trust capacities, but the law was inadequate and a start was still to be effected. In 1891 the company successfully presented to the Legislature a law patterned after trust company acts of certain Eastern states and which remained the law with little change for many years. It required of a trust company a capital of $250,000 and the deposit with the State Treasurer of specified securities in the amount of $100,000. Loans and deposits were limited to ten times the capital stock and when personal property and cash held in trust exceeded $2,000,000 the deposit with the State Treasurer was increased. The efficient feature of the new law was the relief from legal responsibility of executors, guardians, et al., when money and personal property were committed to the care of a trust company by order of court, money to be paid out only on the authority of a court. Semi-annual reports to the Bank Commissioners were required.

Under this law the trust company business acquired a foothold and a fair degree of development during the next ten years. In this period several banking corporations

CALIFORNIA TRUST COMPANIES AND BANKS OPERATING TRUST DEPARTMENTS AS OF JUNE 23, 1915

(Compiled from Reports to the State Banking Department)

		Organized	*Capital and Surplus*	*Total Resources*
San Francisco	Anglo-California Trust Company	1909	$ 1,830,000	$ 12,653,684
"	First Federal Trust Company	1907	1,595,000	8,559,366
"	Mercantile Trust Company	1899	1,075,000	9,394,645
"	Savings Union Bank and Trust Company	1862	2,900,000	41,106,454
"	Union Trust Company	1893	2,850,000	33,451,240
Totals		....	$10,250,000	$105,165,389
Los Angeles	Citizens Trust and Savings Bank	1911	$ 630,000	$ 4,449,696
"	German-American Trust and Savings Bank	1890	2,000,000	21,891,795
"	Hellman Commercial Trust and Savings Bank	1908	1,005,000	6,858,428
"	Los Angeles Title and Trust Company	1901	200,500	217,690
"	Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank	1902	2,850,000	25,156,581
"	Security Trust and Savings Bank	1889	2,900,000	49,191,170
"	Southern Trust Company	1904	200,000	417,695
"	Title Guarantee and Trust Company	1895	300,000	322,598
"	Title Insurance and Trust Company	1893	500,000	2,618,041
Totals		....	$10,585,500	$111,123,694
Bakersfield	Security Trust Company	1910	$ 455,000	$ 2,429,678
Berkeley	Berkeley Bank of Savings and Trust Company	1892	653,700	5,131,061
Long Beach	Long Beach Savings Bank and Trust Company	1902	330,000	2,111,110
Oakland	Oakland Bank of Savings	1867	2,175,000	27,148,492
Pasadena	Crown City Trust and Savings Bank	1905	213,000	908,191
"	Pasadena Trust and Savings Bank	1901	340,000	2,902,450
"	Union Trust and Savings Bank	1895	480,000	4,515,925
Riverside	People's Loan and Trust Company	1913	100,950	151,903
Sacramento	Capital Banking and Trust Company	1893	102,000	571,747
"	Sacramento Valley Banking and Trust Company	1910	620,000	2,393,295
San Diego	Bank of Commerce and Trust Company	1907	700,000	4,556,278
"	Southern Trust and Savings Bank	1907	425,000	2,757,712
"	Union Trust Company	1913	101,750	110,894
San Jose	Garden City Bank and Trust Company	1893	50,000	2,935,465
Santa Ana	Orange County Savings and Trust Company	1889	297,675	1,065,140
Totals		....	$ 7,044,075	$ 59,699,341
Grand totals		....	27,879,575	275,988,424

qualified as trust companies and some others were so styled that did not qualify. The following is a statement of the qualified trust companies of the state in 1902, with the year of incorporation and the amount of paid up capital stock:

California Safe Deposit and Trust Company, San Francisco, 1882, $250,000; Union Trust Company, 1893, $1,140,000; Title Insurance and Trust Company, Los Angeles, 1893, $500,000; Germania Trust Company, San Francisco, reorganized 1898, $376,000; Mercantile Trust Company, 1899, $1,000,000; Los Angeles Trust Company, 1902, $1,000,000.

A combined statement compiled in 1902 makes the following showing for the companies mentioned above: Paid up capital, $4,266,000; surplus and undivided profits, $1,194,000; deposits, $18,664,000; trust assets, $15,640,000.

The California Safe Deposit and Trust Company at the start advertised the trust feature of its business quite liberally, but won little understanding or patronage from the public. As stated above, the Union Trust Company accomplished the real initial progress in establishing the trust business in public favor, particularly in the capacity of trustee for mortgage issues by large public service corporations. Gradually probate courts came to recognize and favor the superior merits of trust companies in connection with estates and there was a steady increase in the practice of depositing with them escrow agreements instead of with commercial banks, as had been customary.

Since 1902, for which year a statement of existing trust companies is given above, there has been a large increase in the number of institutions qualified for this service. Practically all operate commercial and savings banking departments, which provide the bulk of the volume of business reported. The multiplication of these institutions has been encouraged by the banking law of 1909, permitting banking institutions to establish trust as well as commercial and savings departments. A number of old banks have thus entered the field and added the term "trust" to their corporate names. The present banking law forbids the use of the word "trust" in this way unless a trust business is legally established, and it should be remembered that before this legal restriction was made a number of institutions called themselves trust companies without entering this field of business.

An accompanying table gives a complete list of the California banking institutions qualified to do a trust business in June, 1915. It shows that in San Francisco there were five, in Los Angeles nine, with fifteen established in ten other cities. Soon after that date one of the old and strong banks of the San Joaquin Valley, the Bank of Central California of Fresno, added a trust department and changed its name to the Bank and Trust Company of Central California. The Oakland Bank of Savings is the only institution with a trust department that has not added "trust" to its name.

The growth of the trust companies of California has placed this state seventh in rank in point of deposits and resources of this class of institutions, according to the compilation of the United States Mortgage and Trust Company for 1914. The seven ranking states were reported as follows that year:

	Deposits	*Resources*
New York	$1,354,860,501	$1,811,076,841
Pennsylvania	530,442,154	886,742,312
Illinois	509,007,289	663,380,080
Massachusetts	315,583,424	392,343,472
Ohio	265,476,909	318,714,028
New Jersey	222,537,913	277,359,188
California	197,777,275	236,950,118

The volume of purely trust business held by the trust companies of California can not be estimated in the absence of reported information, except as to trusts received from executors, administrators, guardians, assignees, receivers, or trustees, mainly under order of court, and to which the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Banks extends, in a measure. The trusts described are the only ones which receive publicity or which figure in the legal reports of the condition of trust companies. Private trusts are not under the supervision of the state banking department and are not reported. The bank act distinguishes between trusts held under order of a court and all other trusts, which are termed private trusts, and which "shall not be subject to the inspection or supervision of the Superintendent of Banks," except at the discretion of the creator of the trust. It is further provided that the trust company shall hold inviolate all communications regarding the existence or management of private trusts. This includes corporate trusteeships, which provide an enormous volume of business for the leading trust companies of San Francisco, particularly, and also of Los Angeles. Several hundred corporations, including many of

the largest public utilities of the state, have issued their principal mortgage obligations under the trusteeship of the most important California trust companies, but no estimates of the volume of this class of business held are available. Now the only incentive for California corporations to make use of Eastern trust companies in this way is the securing of their co-operation in the underwriting of bond issues. This will naturally remain an important and often controlling consideration in connection with corporate financing in the Eastern investment market.

The volume of court trusts held has grown very large in recent years and shows that the trust company has become firmly established in public confidence and favor. For this phase of the business definite figures are available. The report of the Superintendent of Banks for June 23, 1915, showed that trusts held under order of court as executor, administrator for guardian, assignee, receiver, or trustee amounted to $32,236,978, of which about $17,245,000 was held by San Francisco trust companies and $12,510,000 by Los Angeles companies. Trusts invested amounted to $22,606,000 in personal property and $8,345,280 in real property. As a consequence of liberal advertising of the services of trust departments and an increasing familiarity with the functions of trust companies, individuals in increasing number use the services of trust companies in the making of wills, which appoint the company the custodian and executor thereof.

SAN FRANCISCO STOCK AND BOND EXCHANGE

By H. S. MANHEIM

The San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange was organized on September 18, 1882, in the office of a local broker who had previously issued invitations to sixteen other brokers to meet for the purpose of discussing measures for mutual protection. This is the history of the beginning of all stock exchanges. Various persons in a community who are engaged in the business of buying and selling stocks on commission find that they are suffering from the lack of uniformity in commission charges, and that on account of the absence of public quotations they can not be sure that their clients are receiving and paying the proper prices for their securities.

The officers of the exchange for the first year were: John Perry, Jr., president; August Helbing, vice president; R. G. Brown, chairman; Edw. Pollitz, secretary, and Daniel Meyer, treasurer. Mr. Perry continued to fill the office of president for many years.

The original members were: Andrew Baird, Edward Barry, Phil Barth, Harry Berl, A. W. Blow, W. C. Bousfield, Geo. F. Bowman, J. C. Cebrian, N. Duperu, M. H. Grossmayer, J. Hausmeister, A. C. Hellman, J. R. K. Nuttall, L. D. Hovey, John T. Little, Matthias Meyer, Jos. Rosenberg, L. S. Rose, I. Strassburger, Daniel Stein, Chas. Sutro, Gustave Sutro, Geo. D. Toy, J. H. Withington, Paul Wohl, and H. F. Woods.

Of this list the only two now living and still members of the exchange are Harry Berl and A. C. Hellman.

The first business sessions were held in the office of one of the members, the institution not having sufficient funds to pay for rented quarters. The original membership was nineteen, each of whom paid into the treasury of the exchange the sum of $50 for his seat. On December 18, 1882, the members met to discuss the matter of reducing expenses, there being but $400 in the treasury of the exchange.

There were no by-laws at first, the members simply pledging themselves to one another on their honor to adhere strictly to the commission rates that they had established. At the beginning of its history the exchange allowed no outsiders to be present, except brokers, non-members, who were charged $7.50 per month for the privilege of visiting the rooms during the sessions. On February 1, 1883, the price of the unsold seats (the number in the beginning having been fixed at twenty-five) was raised to $500. In March, 1883, the first daily lists of quotations and transactions were printed and issued to the public. Some years after, as the exchange business and influence became greater, the membership was increased to thirty, the last five seats being sold at $2000 each. For the year ending September 1, 1883, the total business in stocks and bonds in the exchange amounted to $9,490,621, as against $36,425,974 for the year ending September 1, 1916.

Some years later the brokers, thinking that admission to membership of some of the large banking institutions would add to the prestige and influence of the exchange and tend to prevent the organization of competing exchanges, created twelve bank seats which were sold to the large banks, members of the clearing house, at $5000 each, producing $60,000 for the treasury of the exchange, the condition being made that no bank member could sell his seat without first offering it to the exchange for $5000. At the time that this move was made seats were selling at about $12,000. Bank members differ also from others in being permitted to appoint representatives to attend business sessions, and to change these representatives at any time by giving notice in writing of their intention so to do. At the same time a resolution was passed compelling the charge of one-fourth of the regular rates of commission by brokers in the transaction of business for one another. The bank members have the right of representation on the floor of the exchange but have not thus far availed themselves of this privilege and in the handling of orders for clients in local securities usually employ an active member, paying him one-half instead of one-

quarter of the minimum brokerage provided in the by-laws.

A regular member may sell his seat to any one desiring to purchase, subject to the election of the purchaser to membership. An initiation fee of $250 must be paid by the purchaser. The price of a seat depends greatly upon the condition of the stock and bond business, rising and falling as business increases or diminishes. The number of seats being limited, the price has been fairly steady, with an upward tendency due to the growth of the city and the consequent growth of business. A few years ago, however, owing to the death of five members, within a short period the price dropped to $5000, where it remained until the five seats were disposed of.

Under the so-called sand lot constitution of 1879 in California margin trading in stocks and contracts for future delivery were prohibited, but strangely enough the prohibition did not apply to transactions in grain. The law was inoperative. Many transactions were made on margin, and in many cases the client took advantage of the law to recover from his broker such loss as he might have incurred, together with the full amount of the margin deposited. There is no record of any case in which a broker took similar advantage of a client. The exchange some years ago employed a prominent Eastern attorney to take a test case to the United States Supreme Court on the question of the constitutionality of the law. The court decided that the clause in the California constitution was not unconstitutional, and the prohibition remained. It was rescinded by a recent Legislature and margin transactions in stocks are now within the law. I have omitted all considerations of strictly gambling transactions made in bucket shops which are not stock exchanges and in which no actual delivery of and payment for stocks or bonds are ever made or contemplated.

The affairs of the San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange are handled by committees. The executive committee has general supervision and control in all matters not specially controlled by other committees. There is a membership committee to whom are referred all applications for membership in the exchange consequent upon the sale of seats. The arbitration committee is an important one for the reason that its decisions are final. All disputes between members or between members and non-members as to exchange transactions are referred to this committee. The investigation committee's duties are to investigate all charges of violation of the by-laws preferred against any of the members. The voluntary nature of the organization of the exchange makes it possible for the penalties for these violations to be rigorously enforced. It is absolutely necessary that members should play fair with one another and with their clients. That they do so is proved by a record of only four fines imposed during the history of the exchange to date, and no expulsions. To the stock list committee are referred all applications of corporations to have their stocks or bonds called and published on the regular list. A charge of $100 is made for listing and a charge of $25 a year for continuance on the list. It is the duty of the stock list committee to make a thorough investigation into its financial condition and ability to meet its obligations and the good standing of its directors before reporting upon the application of a corporation to list its securities. The listing of a security, therefore, is a patent of respectability and of financial soundness for that security at the time of listing.

Indicating the value of the service of this committee to the exchange and to the public is a controversy that occurred some years ago between the committee and one of the largest corporations in California. This corporation made application to list a very large issue of first mortgage bonds. In examining a copy of the deed of trust securing the bonds, the committee found that it was not a first mortgage nor even a second or third mortgage, but a collateral trust bond. In other words, the only security was the stock of other corporations, which other corporations had already issued first mortgages and in some cases second mortgages. The matter was called to the attention of the officers of the corporation and it was suggested to them that they should change the name of the bond, so that the committee might conscientiously recommend its listing. This they at first refused to do, for the reason that they had sold large numbers of these bonds on the representation that they were a first mortgage, but, becoming satisfied that no amount of pressure or influence could induce the committee to recede from its position, they finally consented, and the bonds were listed

under their proper designation. This incident probably gave the Stock and Bond Exchange a stronger position in the community than it had ever held up to that time.

The exchange at one time published a sheet of unlisted securities, with quotations and transactions. These securities are dealt in at informal sessions after the regular sessions of the exchange. This sheet was published to give the public the correct quotations on the securities therein mentioned. It was afterwards abandoned because a large number of brokers believed that some of the corporations which might otherwise have made application for listing would refrain from doing so for the reason that their securities were already quoted in this sheet, and also because it was thought that the exchange was not acting fairly towards the corporations who had paid and were still paying for being kept on the regular list.

In New York brokers are prohibited from making any transactions except on the floor of the exchange. This rule is made for several reasons. It is to insure the publicity of all quotations, to protect a client, and to more fully advertise the exchange itself. The business in San Francisco being limited, and the exchange holding only two sessions a day, each of thirty minutes' duration, it is impossible to make similar restrictions as to the time and place of doing business. There are printed, therefore, on the sheet under a separate heading lists showing a daily record of transactions made between boards, or, as they are technically known, "street sales." Speculators thinking that they have private information that may become public any moment give rush orders to their brokers to be filled if possible before the next session of the exchange. The transactions effected "on the street" may be recorded only by unanimous consent of the members present at a regular session. This is for the protection of the broker who may have orders for the purchase or sale of the same securities in which a record is sought to be made, and so that their clients may not be led to believe that their interests have been neglected.

The San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange is probably the only one in which sessions are conducted in a quiet, orderly manner, with hardly ever any excitement or confusion. This is due partly to the small number of transactions and partly to small membership and long habit. The sessions are presided over by the chairman, who calls the stocks as they are asked for by the several brokers. The broker asking for the call makes the first bid or offer, stating the number of shares and the price per share. All bids or offers, unless otherwise expressed, are regular; that is, if the transaction is made it must be closed by delivery and payment on the following day, or if the transaction be made on a Friday, on the following Monday. Transactions other than regular are made for cash, or delivery on the same day, or on buyer or seller contracts. The latter are contracts for future delivery, the buyer or seller, as the case may be, having the privilege of calling for or delivering securities at the end, or before the end, of a stated number of days.

The constitution of the exchange provides that the exchange may, on the death of a member, pay to the person or persons designated by him the sum of $2500, the money to be taken from the assets of the exchange or to be provided for by an assessment on the surviving members. Note that this is not mandatory, but optional. The payment is not in the nature of life insurance, but is a donation made to the party or parties designated in a paper filed by the member with the treasurer of the exchange, and the exchange recognizes no claim against this money of any nature whatsoever. This provision is now limited to a certain number of the older members, the clause in the constitution having been repealed as to new members some years ago.

In case of the suspension of a member for violation of the by-laws, no other member of the exchange is permitted to buy or sell to or for said member until he is reinstated. No member may make a transaction for, or sell to, or buy from any member of another exchange in this state without in every case charging a commission, nor may any member give to the member of another exchange any order for the purchase or sale of stocks dealt in on the stock and bond exchange. Any member, even if at the time suspended, who may bring legal proceedings against the exchange for the prevention of the enforcement of any penalty forfeits his seat in the exchange. No member is permitted to make any transaction for the clerk of any other member without the permission of his employer in writing. A full record of all transactions is required

and especially it is necessary to keep a record of the numbers of all stock certificates or bonds bought or sold.

The exchange endeavors to remedy the abuses that creep into the business as they will in every business. Fictitious transactions, as I have stated, are prohibited under severe penalties, but it is impossible to prevent the matching of orders, by which the same person will give to one broker an order to buy and to another an order to sell the same security, thus making a public record of business where there is no actual purchase and sale. A broker having knowledge of such orders and thereafter executing his part of them would be considered guilty of deviation under the very liberal interpretation always given of the by-laws, but he is usually an uninterested and innocent party to the transaction.

The seller has the privilege of demanding money or a certified check in payment of securities sold. This demand, however, is rarely made for the reason that nearly all the banks in San Francisco are now National banks, and a National bank is not permitted to certify any check unless the drawer of the check has to his credit at least the amount asked to be certified. As transactions sometimes run into large figures, credit balances are inadequate to protect these checks. In order to overcome this difficulty a broker sometimes gives to the bank a note for a large sum, say $100,000 or more, thus securing the credit balance to his account, it being understood between him and his bank that no interest is to be charged unless the money is actually used, and also that no check is to be drawn against the credit except such amounts as will be deposited the same day before the close of banking hours.

In 1909 the exchange of shares on the Stock and Bond Exchange was 288,828, of a market value of $10,574,079 and a par value of $12,942,500, while in New York the average annual sales of stocks in the past decade have been 196,500,000 shares, of a value of about $15,500,000,000. The business in New York in that year was as much in one day as was being transacted in San Francisco in two years.

The San Francisco Stock and Bond Exchange is the third largest exchange of its kind in the United States. To again illustrate, however, the difference in the volume of the business in this city and in New York and to show how relatively unimportant are our financial transactions compared with those of the metropolis of the country, an investigation of the figures shows that during the month of September, 1916, the average daily business of the New York Stock Exchange in stocks was over two and one-half times the entire business in stocks in San Francisco for the year ending September 1, 1916.

The largest volume of business transacted during this period has been in water, light and power, and sugar stocks. Local street railroad stocks many years ago interested speculators and investors very largely but have now almost entirely disappeared from the list of securities dealt in. There are at present about seventy-five bonds and fifty-six stocks on the official list, a very small number for the comparatively large volume of business transacted.

The Stock and Bond Exchange as a quasi-public institution has functions of great importance in the business world. Large enterprises, such as transcontinental railroads, telegraph companies, and public utility corporations, such as street railways, lighting, and water companies, would be impossible without their assistance. Investors would hesitate to put their money into stocks which, in case of necessity, it would be difficult or impossible to sell quickly; and banks and capitalists with money to lend would not regard as good security certificates of stock or mortgage bonds on which there was not a public quotation and for which there was not a ready sale. After the conflagration of 1906 in San Francisco the fire insurance companies paid to various loss claimants over $150,000,000 without creating a ripple of disturbance in the financial world. This they were enabled to do through the medium of the stock exchange, whereas if they had been compelled to go out in search of purchasers for their securities the result would have been disastrous.

THE SAN FRANCISCO STOCK EXCHANGE

CAPITAL FOR INVESTMENT and speculation in early days was mainly derived from the output of the mines and the profits of business ventures. While the gold itself went East the many millions derived from the California placers annually during the '50s provided a great accumulation of capital in forms for which the gold had been exchanged and enabled the development of city and state to go forward with comparatively rapid speed. Loanable funds were abundant at high interest rates and new enterprises seeking investment capital were many. Of course, the development of mines, particularly of quartz mines and then of hydraulic mining properties, absorbed a great amount of the wealth produced from the surface placers, in turn adding thereto; but in the development of a new civilization in a new land of such magnificent but slowly recognized opportunities the first generation found plenty of room for serious business enterprise. From the beginning of the period following the gold discovery real estate was a favorite channel of investment, particularly in San Francisco, whose inhabitants had an unbounded faith in its future rise to greatness on the foundation of its commerce.

The formation of companies other than mining increased gradually during the '50s and their stocks were available for investment and speculation. The only railroad constructed during that decade was a short one between Sacramento and Folsom, but steamboat, wharf, telegraph, water, mining ditch, warehouse, and other public service and industrial corporations were formed, the stocks, and to some degree the bonds, of which were on the market, but to an extent which can not now be measured. At times a large volume of city scrip was issued by San Francisco, and counties and towns generally frequently put forth warrants.

Dealings in such securities in San Francisco, as well as in mining stocks of the times, were generally effected through brokers, a number of whom established themselves in Montgomery Street between California and Washington during this first decade. A feature of their business was dealing in Mexican dollars, a large traffic in which was supported by the trade with China, and the purchase of gold dust was naturally another feature. The securities described also figured extensively in the business of the private bankers of the period, both as investments and as security for loans. Security prices were unstable, as nothing in the nature of a stock exchange existed to establish market values. When one of these brokers received an order to buy or sell and he had no private customer to approach he generally sought his purchases or sales through visiting one or more other brokers and making the best terms he could.

This was the nature and course of this phase of California's financial history until the beginning of the next decade, when the wonderful discoveries on the Comstock Lode in Nevada precipitated an orgy of mining stock speculation that lasted approximately twenty years, the fever rising and subsiding by periods, but well sustaining for a generation a craze that will long remain an outstanding feature of the history of San Francisco, which was the vortex of the speculation.

It was the speculative fever aroused in San Francisco by the early discoveries on the Comstock Lode that caused the organization of the San Francisco Stock and Exchange Board in 1862 and the creation of a financial market for mining shares which became an important factor in the operations of San Francisco banks for so many years. One of the striking contrasts between banking methods of today and those of earlier years is afforded by the great volume of loans on mining stocks, generally accepted by bankers as security at 50 per cent of market value. Such loans at times aggregated millions. The quotations in the stock exchange governed these banking operations. It is a peculiar fact that at no time, from the beginning to the present, have the shares of California mining companies, with but rare exceptions, been listed on exchanges and made instruments of speculative dealings. On the other hand, Nevada gold and silver mining stocks have mainly been dealt with in that way. The

first mining properties located on the Comstock Lode were generally subdivided in linear feet rather than on the basis of stock shares, as soon became the rule. The sensational values discovered in some of the Comstock claims soon started a movement of speculative buying in San Francisco, and then elsewhere, and it rapidly grew, unhindered by the strong condemnation of newspapers and conservative elements of the community. This brought a sudden accession of business to the San Francisco brokers and swelled their ranks. The inconvenience of trading and the uncertainty of stock prices called for an organized basis for the business and in September, 1862, forty brokers formed the famous San Francisco Stock and Exchange Board, modeled after the New York and London stock exchanges.

The membership of the board was limited to forty and the organization was quickly dubbed The Forty Thieves by that element of the city which did not approve of gambling in "Washoe stocks." The brokers had plenty of customers, however, and their numbers rapidly increased with the development of the Nevada mines and the rich discoveries made in some of them. The volume of speculation ebbed and flowed as the years went on, as is indicated by the total transactions for a few of the earlier years recorded by Joseph L. King in his history of the exchange, as follows: 1864, $45,600,000; 1865, $23,600,000; 1866, $38,000,000; 1867, $71,000,000; 1870, $51,000,000; 1871, $128,000,000.

Two other stock boards were soon organized in San Francisco, as a result of the limited membership and the high price of seats, but the San Francisco Stock and Exchange Board ever maintained its preeminence and on it the great bulk of the mining stock transactions were always made.

The culmination of the long period of mining stock speculation came in 1875 as a result of the discovery of the great bonanza ore body in the Consolidated California and Virginia mine and in that year seats in the exchange sold as high as $40,000 and the membership limit had been increased to 100. The next was also a great year, but thereafter there came a decline and by the early '80s the fever had quite subsided. The decline in the price of silver which had set in, the exhaustion of the fabulous ore bodies, the great depth the mines had reached, and the increasing cost of mining all combined to repress operations on the Comstock Lode and consequently ended the constant and often violent shifting of stock quotations which made men rich or poor over night. For years every element in the community speculated in these mining stocks.

The episode had a deep influence on the character and fortunes of the city in many ways. The great wealth amassed by a comparatively few men whose inside position enabled them most profitably to manipulate the market finally went largely into the improvement of the city, and the mining operations maintained an important field for San Francisco business men, but serious financial as well as moral evils were also visited on the community. In 1885 pumping was stopped on the Comstock Lode, the mines filled with water to the Sutro tunnel level, and the speculative mania had ended.

Through succeeding years there were occasional small spurts of speculative activity in Comstock shares, prices of which had dropped from hundreds of dollars to a few cents per share. In later years the discoveries in the Tonopah and Goldfield districts of Nevada and the development of the California oil fields provided new groups of speculative stocks which have sustained a fair degree of activity on the exchange.

CLEARING HOUSE RECORDS

San Francisco's first clearing house began operations in March, 1876, with the following fifteen banks represented: The Bank of California, the Bank of British Columbia, the Bank of British North America, the Bank of San Francisco, B. Davidson & Company, Ir. Belloc, Donohoe, Kelly & Company, the First National Gold Bank of San Francisco, Hixkox & Spear, London and San Francisco Bank, Ltd., the Merchants Exchange Bank, Sather & Company, Swiss-American Bank, Anglo-Californian Bank, Ltd., and Wells Fargo & Company.

Five more banks were added to the membership a few months later. They were the Nevada Bank of San Francisco, Lazard Freres, Pacific Bank, the National Gold Bank & Trust Company, and Tallant & Company. Of the twenty, eight were private banks at the time. In the succeeding years a number of banks were added to the membership, and an equal number dropped out, so that the present membership remains at twenty.

The first president of the San Francisco Clearing House Association was Hon. Milton S. Latham, president of the London & San Francisco Bank, a former Governor of California and a Senator of the United States. Homer S. King was its first secretary. Mr. Charles Sleeper became manager in 1877, succeeding Thomas S. Taylor as incumbent of that office, and remaining in the office until his death in 1915.

The presidents of the association have been since Mr. Latham, A. McKinlay, F. F. Low, John McKee, Thomas Brown, William Alvord, Homer S. King, and James K. Lynch. The secretaries have been Homer S. King, George C. Hixkox, J. S. Hutchinson, John D. McKee, F. W. Ziele, Wellington Gregg, Jr., William H. High, E. J. Broberg, Russell Lowry, and D. B. Fuller.

Report of San Francisco Clearing House from Date of Its Organization in 1876 to the End of 1915

1876 (9⅔ months)	$ 476,123,237.97
1877	519,918,803.68
1878	715,329,319.70
1879	533,953,955.90
1880	486,275,953.77
1881	598,896,832.35
1882	629,114,119.81
1883	617,921,853.51
1884	566,857,691.03
1885	562,344,737.93
1886	642,221,391.21
1887	829,181,929.86
1888	836,735,954.39
1889	843,386,150.94
1890	$ 851,066,172.60
1891	892,426,712.61
1892	815,368,724.41
1893	699,285,777.88
1894	658,526,806.13
1895	692,079,210.23
1896	683,229,599.26
1897	750,789,143.91
1898	813,153,024.00
1899	971,015,072.23
1900	1,029,582,594.78
1901	1,178,169,536.30
1902	1,373,362,025.31
1903	1,520,200,682.07
1904	1,534,631,136.73
1905	1,834,549,788.51
1906	1,998,400,779.46
1907	2,133,883,625.80
1908	1,757,141,850.08
1909	1,979,872,570.06
1910	2,323,772,870.99
1911	2,127,075,513.46
1912	2,677,561,952.27
1913	2,624,428,824.74
1914	2,516,004,816.78
1915	2,693,688,925.69
Total	$48,297,809,728.34

LOS ANGELES CLEARINGS

The organization of the Los Angeles Clearing House Association is given an account elsewhere in this book. The record of clearings from the year of its establishment is as follows:

Year	*Clearings*
1888	$ 36,050,980.94
1889	36,873,242.46
1890	31,019,721.86
1891	37,096,126.36
1892	39,529,902.35
1893	45,240,725.79
1894	44,669,100.48
1895	57,046,832.14
1896	61,356,141.99
1897	59,323,916.91
1898	72,229,036.76
1899	86,341,616.68
1900	113,766,378.02
1901	145,170,908.26
1902	225,917,730.28
1903	288,527,582.72
1904	332,715,240.35
1905	449,953,039.94
1906	549,648,223.91
1907	623,170,919.22
1908	481,851,177.80
1909	630,620,133.37
1910	777,219,911.59
1911	908,997,989.73
1912	1,093,542,086.06
1913	1,234,149,996.69
1914	1,182,829,410.78
1915	1,049,090,927.24
Total	$10,693,948,972.17

PASADENA CLEARING HOUSE

The Pasadena Clearing House Association was organized at a meeting held December 22, 1909, and comprised the following banks: First National Bank, Pasadena National Bank, San Gabriel Valley Bank, Union National Bank, American Bank and Trust Company, Crown City National Bank, and National Bank of Commerce. The Security National Bank became a member April 12, 1912, and the Citizens Savings Bank November 1, 1912.

At the time of organization only commercial banks were enrolled as members, but on February 10, 1914, the savings banks affiliated with members were enrolled—namely, Pasadena Savings and Trust Company, Union Trust and Savings Bank, and the Crown City Trust and Savings Bank.

Through consolidation and changes of names, the membership of the association has been changed until at present time only two banks of original membership appear under same name as when first enrolled—namely, First National Bank and Union National Bank. The Pasadena National Bank, Crown City National Bank, and the National Bank of Commerce have consolidated as the National Bank of Pasadena. The American Bank and Trust Company is now the Crown City Trust and Savings Bank. The San Gabriel Valley Bank has consolidated with the Union Trust and Savings Bank.

The clearings from 1911 have been as follows:

1911	$41,606,900.20	1914	$43,946,058.76
1912	47,142,736.38	1915	43,831,333.88
1913	47,818,722.51		

Among the more notable things brought about through the association has been the affiliation of the Pasadena banks with the Clearing House Association of Los Angeles, with an agreement that examinations of the Pasadena banks be made by the Los Angeles examiners. This arrangement was made March 5, 1913, and has been maintained up to the present time.

The Pasadena banks have also been greatly benefited by an advertising agreement through which the banks have combined all local advertising.

The annual dinner of the association has become a notable event, for the reason that so many bankers from all over the United States come to Pasadena in the winter time. Another notable dinner in addition to the annual dinner was given early in 1914 in honor of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Secretary of Agriculture Houston, at which over 400 bankers of Southern California and from all parts of the United States were guests of the Pasadena banks.

The officers of the association for 1916 were: J. B. Coulston, president; H. I. Stuart, vice president, and R. C. Davis, secretary and manager.

SAN DIEGO CLEARING HOUSE

The Clearing House Association of San Diego was organized in 1913, with the following officers: G. A. Davidson, president; L. J. Rice, secretary, and G. A. Davidson, treasurer. R. H. Gunnis was manager of the association, a position which he still holds, and the original number of banks was ten. This has since increased to eleven by the addition of the Union National Bank late in 1913. Several banks in nearby towns clear through agents. The banks that are members of the association are: First National Bank, Merchants National Bank, Bank of Commerce and Trust Company, Security Commercial and Savings Bank, American National Bank, San Diego Savings Bank, Citizens Savings Bank, Southern Trust and Savings Bank, Marine National Bank, United States National Bank, and the Union National Bank.

As early as 1905 a mutual organization had been formed to facilitate the exchange of clearings, but the association was not incorporated until the above date. Previous to 1905 exchanges were made at the banks.

The Clearing House Association has enacted by-laws that govern the banks in the matter of exchange and collection charges, and holidays, donations, etc. These are changed from time to time as the officers deem proper. The interchange of credit information and clearing house examinations of member banks has never been attempted. During the panic of 1907, although every arrangement had been made for issuing clearing house certificates, the condition of the banks at no time made their use needful. There have been no failed banks since the organization of the association.

Below is appended a record of the exchanges for the years about which this information is available:

1906	$36,218,236.32	1911	$ 86,724,333.47
1907	49,194,870.02	1912	131,894,087.37
1908	37,771,349.22	1913	134,155,368.77
1909	52,094,521.82	1914	103,102,297.90
1910	67,173,976.23	1915	99,636,940.70

A FEW CALIFORNIA BANKS

ANGLO & LONDON PARIS NATIONAL

Two of the oldest foreign banks of San Francisco, both of which were prominent and successful institutions for more than a generation and cut a large figure in the banking history of the city, were the progenitors of the Anglo & London Paris National Bank. The Anglo-Californian Bank, Ltd., was one of the two institutions noted, being incorporated in London in 1873, when it succeeded to the business of the old banking firm of J. & W. Seligman & Co., founded before the Civil War. The San Francisco branch achieved assets and liabilities of over $12,000,000. Ignatz Steinhart and the late P. N. Lilienthal were for years the principal managers of the San Francisco branch. The other institution was the San Francisco branch of the London Paris and American Bank, Ltd., and was practically a branch of Lazard Freres & Co. of London, Paris, and New York. It was incorporated in London in 1884. This institution passed into the hands of Herbert Fleishhacker and associates about 1906. Soon after this event a national charter was secured and the old institution became the London Paris National Bank. Under the management of Herbert Fleishhacker it grew in size and strength immediately.

During 1908 negotiations with the interests controlling the Anglo-Californian Bank resulted in an agreement for amalgamation which was announced in January, 1909. The result was the incorporation of the Anglo & London Paris National Bank, with a capital of $4,000,000 and a surplus of $1,500,000. The initial deposits were about $10,000,000. The organization was composed mainly of those managing locally both institutions, the officers being as follows: Chairman of the board of directors, Ignatz Steinhart; president, Sigmund Greenebaum; first vice president and manager, Herbert Fleishhacker; second vice president, Alden Anderson; third vice president, Joseph Friedlander, former cashier of the Anglo-Californian Bank; cashier, Richard Altschul; assistant cashiers, C. F. Hunt and A. Hochstein.

The new institution established itself in the old home of the Anglo-Californian Bank at Pine and Sansome streets, and at the same time plans were proceeded with for the erection of a monumental modern bank home on the property of the London Paris National at Sutter and Sansome streets, which home was occupied in the spring of 1910 and which has since been greatly enlarged by the extension of the bank's quarters into the adjoining Holbrook Building. In the intervening time progress has been exceptional. At the time of the consolidation the resources were about $26,000,000. About a year later they were $32,700,000, and at the end of 1916 they stood at $68,000,000. The deposits were $55,000,000 and the surplus $2,000,000. When the merger was effected the Anglo-Californian Bank operated a branch in the Mission district of the city, and to take over its business the interests controlling the new national institution organized the Anglo-California Trust Company, which has grown to a strong institution at the down-town location it afterward occupied. In 1916 the bank took over the commercial business of the San Francisco branch of the International Banking Corporation when that New York institution underwent a change of control, effecting an important addition to the volume of its deposits and assets.

Since the establishment of the Anglo & London Paris National Bank a number of changes in the board of officers have occurred, though ultimate executive control of the policies and administration has remained practically the same. Ignatz Steinhart early retired from active work in the banking field where he had served so long, but has since remained on the board of directors. In 1911 Sigmund Greenebaum became chairman of the board and Vice President and Manager Herbert Fleishhacker succeeded to the presidency, to which office he has primarily devoted his energies, though being also a leader in the development of very large electric power and other industrial enterprises in this state and elsewhere on the Coast and in various important financial operations. The retirement of Vice President Alden Anderson, who became the first State Superintendent of Banks in 1909, brought to that

office Washington Dodge, who had for many years rendered distinguished service as Assessor of San Francisco. Very soon after organization C. F. Hunt, who had been for many years in the service of the London Paris and American Bank and the London Paris National Bank, was advanced to a vice presidency, in which office he has been a prominent figure in the banking world. Several years ago J. Friedlander was also made a vice president. When the San Francisco business of the International Banking Corporation was acquired in 1916, E. W. Wilson, manager of the local branch and former vice president of the American National, was made an additional vice president. Ignatz Steinhart died in 1917.

Cashier R. Altschul has retired from the cashiership after many years of service, extending well back into the history of the London Paris and American Bank, and the present cashier is Challen R. Parker, who for years was a specialist in the field of bond investments. Assistant Cashier Wm. H. High, formerly manager of the San Francisco branch of the International Banking Corporation, is an active figure in the bank's administration and for years has been prominent in the affairs of the California Bankers' Association. Assistant Cashier H. Choynski has for several years been at the head of the foreign exchange department, a field in which he is an authority. The other members of the official staff are Assistant Cashiers G. R. Burdick, J. W. Lilienthal, Jr., Fred F. Ouer, W. F. Duffy, George A. Van Smith, and J. G. Anderton, and Secretary A. L. Langerman.

ANGLO-CALIFORNIA TRUST CO.

The Anglo-California Trust Company, though in existence as such for only seven years, is the result of a long and honorable development in the San Francisco banking field, involving several consolidations and changes in the control of institutions. It was incorporated in 1909 by Herbert Fleishhacker and associates, at the time of the amalgamation of the Anglo-Californian Bank and the London Paris National Bank, resulting in the creation of the present Anglo & London Paris National Bank. The Anglo-Californian Bank had long maintained a branch in the Mission district of the city, which could not be maintained by a national bank, and it was to take over the business of this branch that the trust company was organized. The capital was $1,500,000, which has since been fully paid in. The first officers were: Herbert Fleishhacker, president; W. K. Cole, vice president and manager, and M. P. Lilienthal, cashier and secretary. In 1911 a consolidation was effected with the Central Trust Company of California. The latter institution was incorporated in San Luis Obispo in 1888 as the California Mortgage and Savings Bank, removing in 1897 to San Francisco and becoming the Germania Trust Company, which name was changed to the Central Trust Company in 1903. The Central Trust Company was for some time located at Montgomery and Sutter streets, subsequently moving to the present location at Market and Sansome streets, the site of the old home of the Wells Fargo & Co. Bank. About this time those in control of the Central Trust Company purchased an interest in the Swiss-American Bank, a savings institution incorporated in 1909 to take over the San Francisco business of the Banca Svizzera Americano of Locarno, Switzerland. The president of the Swiss-American Bank at this time was T. C. Tognazzini and the cashier Fred F. Ouer, who subsequently became vice president and cashier respectively of the Anglo-California Trust Company. At the time of the consolidation with the Central Trust Company Herbert Fleishhacker retired as president and was succeeded by his brother, Mortimer Fleishhacker, who still retains the active control. In 1912 the Swiss-American Bank, which had maintained its individual existence where the trust company was located, was absorbed by the Anglo-California Trust Company. Since the mergers noted were effected the institution has experienced a very noteworthy growth, the assets mounting from $7,500,000 to over $14,000,000. Within the limits of conservative banking a very enterprising spirit has been exhibited. One incident in its career was the notable success with its branch bank at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. Commercial, savings, and trust departments were operated, all showing steady growth. President Mortimer Fleishhacker, in spite of his very extensive duties in the management of large corporations, maintains intimate contact with the affairs of the bank. The vice presidents are H. Fleishhacker, Jesse W. Lilienthal, T. C. Tognazzini, and Charles F. Leege, and the cashier Louis Sutter.

THE CROCKER NATIONAL

The Crocker National Bank began its successful career in 1883 as the private bank of Crocker, Woolworth & Co., which was established with a capital of $500,000. The founders were William H. Crocker, son of Charles Crocker, who holds so distinguished a place in California history as one of the four builders of the Central Pacific Railroad and one of the founders of the Southern Pacific system; R. C. Woolworth, and W. E. Brown. Mr. Woolworth, an experienced banker, was president, W. E. Brown vice president, and William H. Crocker cashier. The bank was located at Pine and Leidesdorff streets, where it became one of the prominent institutions of the financial district of San Francisco.

In 1886 it was incorporated as the Crocker-Woolworth National Bank, with the officers mentioned above. The bank steadily increased the scale of its business, and when, in 1892, the Crocker Building was finished at the junction of Post, Market, and Montgomery streets, it moved to its present spacious home, occupying the entire ground floor, with safe deposit vaults in the basement. In the following year R. C. Woolworth died, and William H. Crocker succeeded to the presidency, which he has since retained. The business of the bank was later enlarged by the absorption of two local banks, the Bank of Sisson, Crocker & Co., which had been incorporated in 1892 and which was taken over in 1895, and the Tallant Banking Company, an incorporation of a well-known pioneer private bank, which was absorbed in 1898. In September, 1906, the name of the bank was changed to Crocker National Bank and the capital was increased to its present figure of $2,000,000. The surplus has been steadily increased, particularly in recent years, and a recent statement shows surplus and undivided profits of $3,350,000. The scale of the bank's business has grown through the years, until the deposits at the end of 1915 were over $28,000,000 and the resources $35,750,000. A few months later the resources had risen to over $42,000,000.

For many years President William H. Crocker has been a particularly prominent figure in the city's public life, distinguishing himself by enterprising and efficient leadership in causes involving the civic and business welfare of the city.

The official staff of the bank is composed of efficient men, well known in the banking field, including Vice Presidents James J. Fagan and Charles E. Green, Vice President and Cashier Wellington Gregg, and Assistant Cashiers J. B. McCargar, G. W. Ebner, B. D. Dean, J. M. Masten, D. J. Murphy, and F. G. Willis. The manager of the bank's foreign department, John Clausen, has a wide reputation as an expert in foreign trade and exchange, and was recently made a vice president.

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL

The American National of San Francisco was established by the nationalization of the American Bank and Trust Company, which was incorporated in 1887. In 1902 the latter institution was bought by P. E. Bowles and Francis Cutting, and soon afterward was changed to a national bank, with a capital of $500,000, which was doubled six months later. In 1902 the bank was located in the Mills Building, corner of Bush and Montgomery streets, and it remained there until 1905, when it occupied its present home in the Merchants Exchange Building on California Street. In 1916 it was decided to erect a magnificent bank building on the adjoining corner of Montgomery Street.

The deposits taken over from the American Bank and Trust Company amounted to less than $400,000. Under the changed management, there was a steady growth in the business, and at the end of 1916 the resources were $12,900,000.

Mr. Bowles has retained his interest in the bank and for years has been largely interested in other banking institutions of the San Francisco Bay region. He was president of the bank from 1902 to January, 1913, when he became chairman of the board of directors, and was succeeded as president by George N. O'Brien.

Francis Cutting, who for over half a century was a very important figure in the industrial development of California, taking the lead in the establishment and development of its greatest fruit and vegetable packing enterprises, and the packing of salmon, was first vice president from 1902 to his death in 1913.

Besides its capital of $1,000,000, the bank showed in 1916 surplus and undivided profits of nearly $500,000.

Mr. Bowles and President O'Brien are ably assisted in the administration of the bank by Vice President D. B. Fuller, who is recognized as a banker of more than

ordinary ability; by Vice President C. H. Crocker, and by Cashier I. H. Sanborn and Assistant Cashier G. M. Bowles.

WELLS FARGO NEVADA NATIONAL

The Wells Fargo Nevada National Bank is the oldest commercial bank but one on the Pacific Coast from the point of view of continuous banking service, though not quite the oldest as an incorporated commercial bank. With the beginning of their historic pioneer express service in 1850, Wells Fargo & Co. began the selling of exchange on many Eastern cities in connection with their purchase of gold dust and their express service, and in July, 1852, the firm established a regular banking business at their headquarters in Montgomery Street in San Francisco, and continued thereafter the receipt of deposits and the characteristic banking operations of the time.

In a newspaper compilation of the San Francisco banks which had been organized up to 1857, Wells Fargo & Co. afforded the only definite statement of capital, which was $600,000. Throughout the pioneer period none of the banks of the day on the Coast stood higher in the public estimation from the standpoints of stability, soundness, and competent administration and service. The bank was incorporated in June, 1866, as Wells Fargo & Co.'s Bank. Ownership of the bank remained in the Wells Fargo Express Company, and throughout many years branches were maintained in New York City, Salt Lake City, and Portland.

A striking feature of the bank's statements through a series of years was its progress in building up a remarkable surplus, called a reserve fund under the old order. The capital remained at $500,000 throughout its career as a State bank, but in 1883 we find the surplus standing at $2,400,000, in 1887 at $3,500,000, and in 1896 at $5,750,000.

For many years of the bank's career Lloyd Tevis, one of the best-known figures in the financial and industrial life of California, was its president, and for a longer time H. Wadsworth was cashier. From early days some of the best-known men of wealth and business ability were members of its board of directors, and some of them were large stockholders. Among them were Leland Stanford, Charles Crocker, Homer S. King, James C. Fargo, and John J. Valentine, the last of whom was in later years president of the bank as well as of the express company.

For many years the bank's home was at the junction of Market, Sansome, and Sutter streets, on the site occupied a few years ago by the Anglo-California Trust Company. It was to such an institution that Isaias W. Hellman turned in 1905 when he wished to further strengthen the Nevada National Bank, then one of the most successful institutions of the city, and one of the historic banks of the Coast.

As related elsewhere in this book, the famous quartette of bonanza kings, James W. Mackay, James C. Flood, James Fair, and W. J. O'Brien, organized in 1875 a bank with a capital of $10,000,000, which was then much larger than the capital of any other American bank. In honor of the source of their riches they named it the Nevada Bank and housed it in a magnificent bank and office building at the northwest corner of Montgomery and Pine streets. Three years later the capital was reduced to the ample sum of $3,000,000. The bank prospered for some years and in 1887 the deposits were $6,000,000 and the resources $14,000,000.

A little later I. W. Hellman of Los Angeles, the pioneer banker of that city, who had attained a very eminent position as a successful and conservative banker through his building up of some Southern institutions, notably the Farmers and Merchants Bank, later and now the Farmers and Merchants National of Los Angeles, was asked to interest himself in the Nevada Bank. He did so, acquiring a large interest himself and bringing in as new stockholders a number of successful business men of the city. Mr. Hellman became president and assumed complete control of the institution, which then started on a new career of growth in both business and reputation.

In 1898 the bank entered the National system as the Nevada National, and about seven years later, in 1905, came the consolidation with the Wells Fargo & Co. Bank. The latter institution had elements of great strength in the length of its honored career, its prestige, and the favor it commanded in the commercial world. Similar and other elements of strength, including the universal confidence reposed in President Hellman, were possessed by the Nevada National, and the result of the union has been the steady upbuilding of one of the greatest financial institutions of the Pacific Coast and one of the great ones of the country.

Since the consolidation the capital has remained at $6,000,000, and the large initial surplus has been since increased to $5,000,000. From 1908 to 1916 the deposits have risen from $20,740,000 to over $45,800,000; the resources from $38,278,000 to $65,000,000. An appropriate historical note should be made of Vice President F. L. Lipman, who began his eminent banking career as a young messenger in the old Wells Fargo & Co. Bank, rising in later years to its cashiership, and soon after the consolidation to the vice presidency of the present institution.

The list of officers in 1916 is as follows: President, Isaias W. Hellman; vice presidents, I. W. Hellman, Jr., F. L. Lipman, James K. Wilson; cashier, Frank B. King; assistant cashiers, W. McGavin, C. L. Davis, A. D. Oliver, and Julian Eisenbach.

MERCANTILE NATIONAL BANK AND MERCANTILE TRUST COMPANY

Among the premier banking institutions of San Francisco which have had their start and development in recent years are the Mercantile National Bank and the Mercantile Trust Company, allied institutions which have had and now have in their lists of officers and directors some of the most distinguished names associated with California financial history. First to be established was the Mercantile Trust Company, incorporated in April, 1899, with Frederick W. Zeile as president; vice presidents, N. D. Rideout and Henry T. Scott; cashier, John D. McKee. The other original directors were: William Babcock, Wakefield Baker, H. C. Breeden, Warren D. Clark, W. F. Detert, F. G. Drum, C. E. Green, M. H. Hecht, William G. Irwin, D. O. Mills, E. S. Pillsbury, and Claus Spreckels. Several of these well known names are now on the roll of the departed.

Business was begun at 236 Bush Street, in the Mills Building, with a capital of $500,000, which was a little later increased to $1,000,000. It was the original intention of this institution to do no banking business, but to act as a trust company only, doing a strictly trust business, but conditions were such that this field was gradually entered into, with the result that at the end of the second year's business deposits were in excess of $2,000,000. They steadily increased until they exceeded $10,000,000 when the institution was ten years old, and about that time it was decided to organize a National bank to which the commercial business of the trust company would be transferred. The result was the organization in 1910 of the Mercantile National Bank with a capital of $2,000,000, and since that time the State institution has continued strictly as a trust company.

The Mercantile Trust Company occupied in 1904 the costly monumental building on California Street which is now the home of both institutions.

After several years of service as president of the Mercantile Trust Company the late Frederick W. Zeile retired from active life and was succeeded in the office by the late N. D. Rideout, whose long career as a California banker was a distinguished one. Upon the death of Mr. Rideout later, the office was assumed by the late Wm. G. Irwin. After his death the office was assumed by the present president, Henry T. Scott, who is also president of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. John D. McKee and Frank G. Drum are vice presidents and R. M. Sims trust officer. In 1915 the resources were about $10,000,000.

The Mercantile National has had a very successful career and in 1916 its deposits stood at $14,500,000 and its resources at $19,500,000. Surplus and undivided profits had reached $1,220,000.

Henry T. Scott was president of the National bank, and Wm. G. Irwin chairman of the board, from its organization until the death of Mr. Irwin early in 1914, when Mr. Scott became chairman and John D. McKee president. Mr. McKee has been an active San Francisco banker since he began his business career as a youth in 1884, by entering the old Tallant Banking Company, of which his father, John McKee, was cashier. Upon the death of his father in 1893 he became cashier and manager. When this bank was absorbed by the Crocker-Woolworth National Bank in 1898 he remained with the latter. When the Mercantile Trust Company was organized soon after he assumed the active management as cashier, later becoming vice president and cashier, and was vice president and cashier of the National bank until 1914. He has achieved distinction in the field of corporation finance, as well as in the banking world. Frank G. Drum is vice president, O. Ellinghouse cashier, and W. F. Berry, F. O. Cooke, and Thomas M. Paterson assistant cashiers.

GERMAN SAVINGS AND LOAN SOCIETY

The German Savings and Loan Society of San Francisco is one of the pioneer savings banks of the state, having been incorporated in February, 1868, with a capital of $60,000. The incorporators were C. F. Mebius, L. Gottig, Claus Spreckels, Fritz Koester, Edward Kruse, George H. Eggers, Jacob Gundlach, Henry Schmiedell, and Fred Roeding. Its organizers and its first directors included some of the strong and well-known figures in the local banking and business field, and this and the careful policy of its operations caused it to grow in a very encouraging way during the first years of its career, although it was one of a dozen savings banks organized in the city during those years. One of the earliest statistical compilations regarding California banks shows that during the twelve years to the end of 1879 the German Savings and Loan Society paid $4,035,692 in interest dividends to term depositors, the average annual rate for the period being 9.50 per cent.

In 1883 the deposits had reached nearly $11,000,000. In 1890 they had about doubled and resources stood at $22,000,000. By 1896 the deposits were over $29,000,000 and the resources $31,286,000. A steady growth during the following decade carried the deposits to $35,000,000 at the time of the San Francisco fire of 1906. In common with all San Francisco savings banks, the German Savings and Loan suffered a large reduction in deposits through withdrawals by burned-out depositors, but in spite of the panic of the following year, the end of 1908 saw the deposits back to $35,000,000. The past few years have seen the most rapid growth in the bank's history, the deposits rising to nearly $48,500,000 in 1912, to $51,600,000 in 1913, and to $63,499,332 at the end of 1916, at which time the depositors numbered over 69,000, while the resources had risen to $66,633,735. The bank began business with a capital of $300,000, which through succeeding years has been increased to $1,000,000, and throughout the history of the institution the policy of building up the reserve fund has been steadily pursued, the reserve having reached $2,050,000 at the end of 1916.

The growth of the bank in recent years has been both the cause and result of the establishment of branches in populous outlying sections of the city, three branches, in homes erected by the bank, having been established respectively in 1908, 1909, and 1912.

Official reports of past years show an exceptionally wide distribution of the bank's real estate loans. For instance, in 1896 such loans were outstanding in forty counties of California, while $3,408,000 was loaned in Oregon, over $3,000,000 in Washington, $400,000 in Utah, and a small amount in Nevada. The total of these loans was $23,578,000. For a number of years a branch was maintained at Portland, Ore. The bank's fine home on California Street was restored in still more magnificent style after the fire of 1906.

From its organization this old institution has been guided by officers and directors who were strong and well-known figures in the financial and business world. L. Gottig served as president from the time of organization until 1893. For a number of years prior to his death late in 1916, Nicholas Ohlandt was president. For many years the active administration of the bank has been in the hands of Vice President and Manager George Tourny. At the end of 1916 the officers and directors were as follows: John A. Buck, president; George Tourny, vice president and manager; E. T. Kruse, vice president; A. H. R. Schmidt, vice president and cashier; I. N. Walter, Hugh Goodfellow, J. H. Dieckmann, and A. Haas. Additional officers were: William Herrmann, assistant cashier; A. H. Muller, secretary; G. J. O. Folte and William D. Newhouse, assistant secretaries.

THE MERCHANTS NATIONAL

The present Merchants National Bank of San Francisco is the result of bank mergers which, with a natural increase of business, have developed an institution with resources of $8,500,000. The original Merchants National was founded in 1905 by interests controlling the Scandinavian-American Savings Bank, including L. I. Cowgill, president of the Merchants National for several years. In 1909 the United States National was absorbed and the capital increased from $300,000 to $500,000. In 1910 the cashiership was assumed by W. W. Jones, who has retained that executive position ever since. In 1912 came a consolidation with the Western Metropolis National Bank under a new incorporation which retained the name of the Merchants National. The capi-

tal of the larger institution was $1,500,000, and the surplus $265,000. The home of the Western Metropolis in the 12-story office building at Market and New Montgomery streets was occupied. After the consolidation the organization included President A. L. Meyerstein, Vice Presidents John H. Spring and C. A. Hawkins, and Cashier W. W. Jones.

In 1913 came another important change in the organization with the purchase of a large interest in the bank by W. E. Johnson and some associates of Nevada, Mr. Johnson, long a prominent banker of Nevada, becoming vice president and manager. At about this time Robert Oxnard became president, and Messrs. Meyerstein and Spring retired from their offices. In the following year, W. H. Doyle, a widely known banker of Arizona, entered the administration as vice president. In January, 1916, the presidency was assumed by William T. Summers, who, with some business associates, had acquired important stock interests.

Early in 1917 the officers were as follows: William T. Summers, president; William E. Johnson, vice president; William W. Jones, vice president and cashier; William H. Doyle, vice president; T. Wilson Dibblee, vice president; George Long and Frederick W. Judson, assistant cashiers. The bank has enlarged and improved its extensive quarters in very recent years, and operates a finely equipped safe deposit plant. When the Twelfth District Federal Reserve Bank was organized it found an adequate home in a large extension of the Merchants National's quarters which was originally intended for a savings and trust department. The bank has a strong board of directors and is firmly established on a sound and growing basis.

MUTUAL SAVINGS BANK

The Mutual Savings Bank was incorporated in November, 1889, by a number of the best-known bankers and capitalists of San Francisco, though not on the mutual plan, as the name might imply. The first president was James G. Fair, and among the directors with large stock holdings were James Phelan and his son, James D. Phelan, James Moffitt, John A. Hooper, Edward Barron, and S. G. Murphy. Bankers familiar with that period will recognize in the above the names of some of the leading officers and directors of the First National Bank of that time. The initial capital was $300,000. James A. Thompson was the first cashier. For a number of years the bank made its home in the Mechanics' Institute Building on Post Street, but later erected one of the finest bank and office buildings in the city on Market Street near Kearny, its present home.

But few important changes in the bank's organization have occurred during its more than a quarter century of steady growth. James G. Fair was succeeded as president by the late James Phelan, and for a number of years the office has been filled by James D. Phelan, United States Senator from California, and so long prominent in the city's business and civic life. For many years George A. Story was cashier. Upon his death in 1913, Assistant Cashier C. R. Hobson, who has long been with the bank, assumed the office. J. K. Moffitt, cashier of the First National Bank, and John A. Hooper, an old director of the same institution, are vice presidents. The assistant cashiers are A. E. Curtis and J. F. Mullen. At the end of 1916 the bank's statement included the following: Capital paid in, $611,670; surplus, $390,000; deposits, $9,862,225; resources, $10,917,908.

BANK OF CALIFORNIA N. A.

The Bank of California occupies a premier position among the banking institutions of the state from the standpoint of historical interest. Its career has been an interesting and distinguished one in a variety of ways, but only the briefest summary of the outstanding facts of its organization and growth can be attempted here. The origin and organization of the bank are reviewed in more detail in this book, in the chapter entitled "A Pioneer Banker's Recital," and in the chapter on "Bankers of Old San Francisco" James Rolph gives interesting reminiscences of the bank's founder, William C. Ralston, and some of the distinguished men associated with him.

As described in the introductory chapter, the Bank of California was the first incorporated bank of California to be incorporated otherwise than under the law authorizing the incorporation of savings banks. Thereafter, up to the adoption of the Bank Act of 1909, State banks were classified as savings or commercial banks, according to whether they were formed under the savings bank act or the general

corporation law, and not according to the nature of their business. The Bank of California, incorporated in June, 1864, was thus the first commercial bank organized under state law, and it remains the state's oldest commercial bank from this standpoint, though private banks that were incorporated later have a longer history as financial institutions of this class.

The organization of the bank was due to the enterprise of William C. Ralston, that picturesque and masterly figure who was a leader in the city's financial life and material development during nearly a generation preceding his death in 1875. Mr. Ralston had been a very active member of a succession of historic private banking firms since the middle fifties, beginning with the firm of Garrison, Morgan, Fretz & Ralston, which later became Fretz & Ralston, and still later Donohoe, Ralston & Co. The dissolution of this firm in June, 1864, resulted in the establishment of the private banking firm of Donohoe, Kelly & Co., and the incorporation of the Bank of California, which began business July 5, 1864.

In the organization of the Bank of California twenty-six men of prominence in business life joined as stockholders, among them D. O. Mills, founder and head of the pioneer private banking firm of D. O. Mills & Co., of Sacramento. The authorized capital was $5,000,000 and the paid-up capital $2,000,000. Starting under the favorable auspices of a strong organization, and with a capital so large for that period, the bank's career during the following decade more than fulfilled the brightest hopes of its founders. In 1873 President D. O. Mills retired from the presidency, but resumed the office when the bank's doors were temporarily closed in August, 1875, at which time Mr. Ralston's accidental death removed him from the scene. These incidents did not, except for the moment, impede the progress of the institution nor impair the public confidence which the Bank of California has always enjoyed. With quickly restored strength the bank resumed business October 2 of that year. In 1879, a year of business depression, the deposits were $5,432,000 and the resources $10,800,000. In 1890 the deposits were $7,500,000 and the resources $13,800,000. In 1906 the capital was $4,000,000, the surplus $6,000,000, and the undivided profits $3,900,000, while the resources had risen to approximately $40,000,000. A marked expansion of the bank's volume of business ensued, succeeding the year 1910. In January, 1911, the resources were $56,880,000, and in January, 1914, they were $62,000,000, rising to $72,000,000 in 1916. In May, 1917, the capital was $8,500,000 and the surplus and undivided profits $8,240,000, while the deposits had increased to $57,560,000 and the resources to $80,700,000.

One distinctive feature of the bank's career was the establishment many years ago of branches in other Pacific Coast cities. It early established a branch at Virginia City, Nev., and it operated on an important scale during the large activity of that famous mining center. It was conducted as an agency until 1917, when it was closed. Of large importance, however, have been the branches established years ago at Portland, Ore., and Seattle and Tacoma, Wash. These branches carry deposits of several million dollars each, and through them the Bank of California N. A. has long been a large factor in the business life of the Northwest. Two important San Francisco banks have been absorbed by this institution in recent years, one the old London and San Francisco Bank, Ltd., taken over in 1905, and the other the San Francisco National Bank, which was purchased in 1910, at which time the capital was increased to its present figure. The bank entered the National system in 1910, under the name of Bank of California National Association, exercising its legal right to maintain its established branches, and becoming one of the extremely few National banks of the country with branches. In 1867 the bank occupied the home at California and Sansome streets which was burned in 1906, and on the site of which was erected its present distinguished structure.

The directors and officers which have served the institution have included many distinguished business men and financiers. D. O. Mills resigned the presidency a second time in 1878 and was succeeded by William Alvord. In 1904 Mr. Alvord died and Homer S. King became president. Mr. King retired in 1909 and was succeeded by Frank B. Anderson, who had been vice president and manager for a number of years, and whose career as a banker and as a financier has been a distinguished one. He has not only been a strong and leading figure in the banking world, but has been very successful in his leadership in the reorganization and rehabilitation of some of the largest industrial and public utility corporations of the state. Thomas Brown,

cashier from 1873 to his death in 1902, was a banker of wide reputation. He was succeeded by Irving F. Moulton, now vice president and cashier. Charles K. McIntosh, vice president of the San Francisco National at the time of its absorption, is also a vice president. He has been a class "A" director of the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank since its organization. Francis W. Wolfe, formerly cashier of the San Francisco National, has been an assistant cashier since the merger. The other assistant cashiers are Sam H. Daniels, William R. Pentz, and Arthur L. Block. Allen M. Clay is secretary, James D. Ruggles assistant secretary, William Mackintosh general manager of the Northern branches, William A. Macrae manager of the Portland branch, Samuel M. Jackson manager of the Tacoma branch, and Ernest C. Wagner manager of the Seattle branch.

FIRST NATIONAL OF SAN FRANCISCO

The oldest National bank in California, and the first to be organized in the state, is the First National of San Francisco, which was incorporated in November, 1870, as the First National Gold Bank of San Francisco, beginning business in January, 1871. The adherence of California to gold coin had prevented the organization of National banks until the law of 1870 permitted the organization of banks whose notes should be payable in gold.

A strong coterie of the city's leading business men and financiers joined in the organization of the First National Gold Bank. Among the leading stockholders and directors were James Phelan, father of United States Senator James D. Phelan, now a director; James Moffitt, father of J. K. Moffitt, vice president and cashier; George F. Hooper, father of J. G. Hooper, now vice president and manager of the affiliated First Federal Trust Company, and others prominent in that day.

The bank began business at 408 Montgomery Street, a few years later moving to the Nevada Block, located at Pine and Montgomery. In 1889 the bank occupied its own building at Bush and Sansome streets, remaining there after the great fire of 1906 until its splendid new home in its 12-story bank and office building at Post and Montgomery was erected.

James Phelan was the first president. He was succeeded by George F. Hooper, and then, for several years, the office was held by R. C. Woolworth, afterward president of the Crocker-Woolworth Bank. Daniel Callaghan was the fourth president, and in 1887 came S. G. Murphy, who held the office for about twenty years. After the fire of 1906 he resigned and was succeeded by Rudolph Spreckels, the incumbent, who has been a prominent capitalist for many years. The first cashier was N. K. Masten. For many years the cashiership was held by E. D. Morgan, who was succeeded in 1894 by James K. Lynch, who entered the bank about 1878 and whose later career as vice president and manager of the institution, and as a national figure in the banking world, has been a distinguished one. For many years he has been an active member of the California Bankers' Association and the American Bankers' Association, in which organizations he has held various high offices, and of both of which he has been president. He has for many years been a frequent and favored speaker before various state and national conventions of bankers. He has been a class A director of the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank since its organization. He became vice president and manager of the bank in 1905.

J. K. Moffitt, long with the bank and cashier for a number of years, became vice president in 1913, and upon the retirement of his successor, J. H. Skinner, again assumed the cashiership along with his vice presidency. For many years he has been a strong figure in the financial and business affairs of the city and bay region. He is a vice president of the Mutual Savings Bank, a director of the Oakland Bank of Savings, and a regent of the University of California.

The official staff includes, besides those noted, Vice Presidents C. H. McCormick and George A. Kennedy, and Assistant Cashiers Robert R. Yates, E. Avenali, L. F. Cadogan, and Ralph A. Newell.

The First National has grown to its commanding position without consolidations or other striking changes. The capital has grown to $3,000,000, the surplus and profits to $2,000,000, and the resources to about $31,000,000.

The First Federal Trust Company was organized by the bank's stockholders in 1908, with a capital of $1,500,000. Its resources are now over $10,000,000. Rudolph Spreckels is president; James K. Lynch and Clinton E. Worden, vice presidents; J. G. Hooper, vice president and manager, and J. K. Moffitt, cashier.

FIRST NATIONAL OF OAKLAND

The First National Bank of Oakland was the outgrowth of the Alameda County Savings and Loan Society, which commenced business under a State charter on August 1, 1874, and was among the earlier financial institutions of California. The capital of the society was $100,000, and the officers were: B. F. Ferriss, president; A. Everhardt, vice president; G. M. Fisher, cashier, and A. D. Thomson, secretary and accountant. These officers comprised the entire office force. Mr. Ferriss, the organizer of the institution, was very prominent in the affairs of Oakland, having been Mayor in 1865 and several times a member of the City Council.

In May, 1875, the bank was reorganized under a special law of Congress as the First National Gold Bank of Oakland. When the government resumed specie payments in 1879, restoring greenbacks to a parity with gold, the National gold banks lost their significance and became like other National banks. In an Oakland paper dated March 14, 1880, appeared this item: "The First National Gold Bank of Oakland has dropped the word 'Gold' and is now the First National Bank. It is a solid institution, well managed, and popular."

During this period some changes had taken place in the personnel of the official staff. V. D. Moody in 1876 succeeded Mr. Ferriss as president, and in 1891 Mr. Moody was succeeded in turn by A. D. Thomson. In 1893 the control of the bank passed into the hands of G. W. McNear and P. E. Bowles, who became president and vice president, respectively. Three years later, however, these officers were reversed, Mr. Bowles becoming president and Mr. McNear vice president. The latter was succeeded three years later by L. C. Morehouse.

The year 1908 was marked by two important events in the history of the First National Bank. The first was the occupancy of a new eight-story building at the corner of Fourteenth Street and Broadway, erected by the bank. The second was the organization of the First Trust and Savings Bank, capitalized from the surplus of the First National Bank. The savings bank made rapid and steady progress from the start, and six years later had so outgrown its quarters that it was compelled to erect its own building on the corner of Sixteenth Street and San Pablo Avenue.

In the fall of 1915 occurred the death of L. G. Burpee, who had been connected with the bank for more than twenty-five years, serving successively as assistant cashier, cashier, and vice president. On the first of January, 1916, P. E. Bowles retired from active official connection, after serving as president for more than twenty years. He was succeeded by Russell Lowry, then deputy governor of the San Francisco Reserve Bank. The official staff then stood as follows: Russell Lowry, president; E. A. Heron, vice president; S. H. Kitto, cashier; Chas. N. Walter and N. B. Campbell, assistant cashiers.

Throughout the forty-one years of its life the First National Bank has taken a leading part in the financial affairs of Oakland. The bank has passed through a number of severe crises and has met every demand upon it without delay or hesitation, no matter how severe the financial disturbance. Its facilities have always been at the service of the business community, and its efforts have been strictly along the lines of upbuilding.

TWO SUCCESSFUL BERKELEY BANKS

The First National Bank of Berkeley was organized almost twenty-five years ago. At that time Berkeley was not the flourishing city that it is today, but it was sufficiently large to merit the establishment of a bank, in the estimation of far-sighted men of wide banking experience. Since 1892 the bank has had a healthy growth from year to year. Today it is one of the strongest financial institutions in the state, with over 25,000 depositors and the good will of the citizens. There have come to this institution the tests and strains which are inevitable, but it has spoken well for the management's cool judgment and level-headed handling of untoward circumstances that the bank has safely weathered every storm and gained port with its own interests and those of its depositors intact. Since the First National was organized Berkeley has grown from a purely college town into a city of 50,000 inhabitants, with great increase to the bank's business.

With the First National Bank is affiliated the Berkeley Bank of Savings and Trust Company, which is located in the same banking rooms, with branches at Telegraph Avenue and Bancroft Way and at South Berkeley.

The home of the First National Bank is in an imposing brick building of five stories, situate on the west side of the principal thoroughfare of the city. There is a splendid vault plant, and every facility and convenience that a progressive modern bank can supply its customers and employees is afforded.

The officers of the banks are: First National — A. W. Naylor, president; F. L. Naylor and Wm. E. Woolsey, vice presidents; W. F. Morrish, cashier, and G. L. Pape, assistant cashier.

Berkeley Bank of Savings and Trust Company: A. W. Naylor, president; F. L. Naylor and Wm. E. Woolsey, vice presidents; W. S. Wood, cashier and trust officer; Elmer K. Cole and G. T. Douglas, assistant cashiers.

The combined resources of the two banks amount to $12,000,000.

ALAMEDA'S OLDEST BANK

The City of Alameda, across the bay from San Francisco, was a suburban town of about 6000 people in 1878 when J. E. Baker, a young man employed in the First National Bank of San Jose, secured the co-operation necessary to organize the Alameda National Bank in the growing town. There was a demand for local real estate loans, and to meet this demand it was decided four years later to become a State institution. Under the name Alameda Bank it continued to grow through the years, steadily increasing both its commercial and savings business. In 1890 the savings business of the institution was turned over to the Alameda Savings Bank, which was organized with the same officers and directors. In 1908 the Alameda Bank re-entered the National system under its former name, the Alameda National Bank. Both banks have grown steadily through the years and in 1916 their combined capital, surplus, and undivided profits were $545,000, combined deposits over $3,000,000, and combined resources $3,762,000. The Alameda Savings Bank, in 1916, established a branch in the West End of the city.

J. E. Baker was in active control of these banks from their organization until his death early in 1916, a period of over thirty-six years. He was cashier of the Alameda National when it was founded in 1878, and in 1900 became president of both the affiliated banks. Following the death of Mr. Baker, ex-Congressman J. R. Knowland, whose father was one of the founders of the banks, became president of both institutions, and soon afterward J. E. Hall, with many years of banking experience in San Francisco, was made manager of the twin banks. Charles E. Tabor has been cashier of both banks for a number of years.

TWO LEADING LONG BEACH BANKS

The National Bank of Long Beach has the distinction of being the oldest and largest commercial bank in Long Beach, having been organized in June, 1896, as a state institution, the Bank of Long Beach, with a capital of $25,000, which, in that early day, furnished more than ample capital for the needs of the community. Long Beach at that time had a permanent population of about 1200 people, but was known purely as a summer resort, entertaining during the months of July and August of each year a temporary influx of tourists and campers of about 20,000 individuals.

The city, previous to the organization of its first bank, was very slow of growth, there being little if any inclination on the part of the citizens to make the place sufficiently attractive to induce others to select it as their future home city. The chief employment of its citizens seemed to be entertaining themselves by fishing from the 1800-foot pleasure pier and by gathering clams at low tide on the broad, smooth, gently sloping beach.

However, when the suggestion to organize the Bank of Long Beach was announced to the public it seemed to meet with favor, especially with one well-to-do resident who was approached by the prospective cashier with a view to selling him $100 worth of the stock of the new bank. This particularly far-sighted man very courteously refused to invest any of his hard-earned funds in such a speculative scheme as a bank in such a dead little town as Long Beach, but he did volunteer the encouraging information that the bank would surely furnish a convenient place for the visitors to change their $20 gold pieces.

Even the wisest ones of those days were absolutely unable to imagine or comprehend the marvelous increase of population in store for Long Beach, which, from 1900 to 1910, as indicated by the United States census return, did actually show an increase of 690.8 per cent, the population at this time, January 1, 1915, as estimated by the school census, being in excess of 40,000. Long

Beach is well provided with banking facilities, there being six commercial banks and one savings bank and trust company, now doing a splendid business, with profit to their stockholders, as well as wielding an important influence in the commercial development of the fastest growing city in America.

The father of banking in Long Beach is P. E. Hatch, who located in Long Beach in 1894 after several years of banking in Nebraska and Colorado. In 1896 he organized the Bank of Long Beach and was its first cashier, retaining that position in this bank and its successor, the National Bank of Long Beach, until 1907, when he became vice president, and a year later president. The bank has achieved important distinction as one of the successful commercial banks of Southern California. A recent statement showed capital of $150,000, surplus of $115,000, and total resources of over $2,000,000. Associated with Mr. Hatch in the control and management of the institution are Vice Presidents Jotham Bixby, George H. Bixby, and E. E. Norton, and Cashier W. M. Cook. The Messrs. Bixby, father and son, have been among the most influential factors in the remarkable development of Long Beach.

The Long Beach Savings Bank and Trust Company was organized in February, 1902, by P. E. Hatch and associates in the Bank of Long Beach, the bank being incorporated with a capital of $25,000. At the time of the organization, D. S. Shaw, one of the pioneer settlers of Long Beach, was a small stockholder, and was very much interested in the bank and its growth. All of the clerical work of the bank was then transacted by J. W. Tucker, the present cashier, then assistant cashier, in a small office perhaps eight by ten feet in size in the banking rooms of the Bank of Long Beach, now the National Bank of Long Beach. Mr. Shaw was an old-fashioned, stalwart type of citizen. He was interested in the efforts of the assistant cashier and encouraged him in various ways.

Promising a substantial deposit at the time when the total deposits of the bank amounted to about $50,000, he surprised the assistant cashier one day by coming in with a gunny sack, which he lifted to the counter at the one and only window provided for the transaction of the bank's business at that time, saying: "Here is a deposit for you." The bag contained $5000 in $20 gold pieces, which Mr. Shaw had drawn from some deposit that he had with a Los Angeles bank and brought down to gladden the heart of the ambitious bank officer.

When it is remembered that in those days there were only a couple of trains each way between Long Beach and Los Angeles on the steam railways, the uniqueness of the whole transaction is more apparent. Mrs. Shaw, who accompanied Mr. Shaw on the trip, joined with the bank officer at the Los Angeles bank in trying to have Mr. Shaw accept a bank draft for the amount, but he had determined on making the deposit a tangible one, by completing the transaction in his own way, and to the entire satisfaction of himself and Assistant Cashier Tucker.

The Long Beach Savings Bank and Trust Company is now the largest banking institution in Long Beach, having a capitalization of $250,000, owns its own five-story building, and has deposits of nearly $2,000,000, but has never received a deposit that carried with it more assurance of complete confidence than the one we have described. George H. Bixby is president of the bank.

FIRST NATIONAL OF ALHAMBRA

Alhambra, one of the prosperous towns in the garden region of Southern California, is the home of one of the strong and successful banks of the Southland, the First National of Alhambra. Its career began as the Alhambra Bank, a State institution organized in 1888 by some well-known citizens of that part of the state, and its first cashier was James McLaren. In 1906 it entered the National system and grew with its region, building up a strong surplus and a large volume of business.

In 1911 the Alhambra National Bank was organized by John B. Knox, Marco H. Hellman of Los Angeles, and associates, and later the latter interests acquired control of the First National, resulting in the consolidation of the two institutions in 1915, with John B. Knox, president; Marco H. Hellman and H. H. Hammond, vice presidents, and C. S. Wilson, cashier. The name of the First National was retained and the bank started on its new career with a capital of $50,000, surplus and undivided profits of $55,000, and deposits of $600,000. Soon after the merger John B. Knox retired as president and was succeeded by H. H. Hammond. The home of the bank is in a handsome two-story structure, erected in 1911 by the Alhambra National.

OAKLAND BANK OF SAVINGS

The Oakland Bank of Savings is the oldest bank in Alameda county, and one of the oldest banks in the state, having begun its career in 1867. In the half century of its life it has grown to be an institution with a capital of $1,250,000, a surplus of $1,255,000, and resources of $32,650,000. The original capital was $150,000. It was doubled two years later and made $1,000,000 in 1871. In 1905 the stockholders organized the Bankers Trust Company with a capital of $300,000, and in 1910 this institution was merged with the parent bank, which organized a trust department to care for this business. The Oakland Bank of Savings is the only bank in the state doing a trust company business which has not added the word "trust" to its name. At the time of this merger the capital was increased to $1,150,000, and it was further increased to $1,250,000 in 1915, when the Berkeley National Bank and the University Savings Bank of the adjoining City of Berkeley were merged into the Oakland Bank of Savings, these strong institutions passing out of existence and their business going to the Berkeley branch of the Oakland bank, established in the home of the Berkeley National. Two other branches have been established recently, one in West Oakland, in 1915, and the other in East Oakland early in 1917, through the absorption of the Twenty-Third Avenue Bank.

The bank began business in a small building at Ninth and Broadway, not long after going to its present location at Twelfth and Broadway, where, after successive enlargements of its home, it was finally housed in its present $650,000 building. The bank's annual record of deposits shows that these passed $1,000,000 in 1875, $2,000,000 in 1887, $5,000,000 in 1892, $10,000,000 in 1904, $20,000,000 in 1912, and $29,800,000 January 1, 1917, when the resources were $32,680,720. The Oakland Bank of Savings has always been primarily a savings bank, but recently it has been strongly developing its commercial department, to which $5,780,000 of the bank's resources were apportioned January 1, 1917.

President W. W. Garthwaite has been with the bank almost since its organization, and Cashier J. W. Eccleston has been with it in various capacities for a generation. Other officers are: Vice presidents, W. B. Dunning, Henry Rogers, and W. K. Cole; assistant cashiers, Samuel Breck, F. A. Allardt, and A. W. Moore; assistant secretaries, J. A. Thomson and A. E. Caldwell; trust officer, D. A. Bulmore; manager Berkeley branch, W. A. Shockley.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS SAVINGS BANK OF OAKLAND

The Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank of Oakland is the only bank in that city doing a savings bank business exclusively. It was incorporated in 1892 and began business in 1893 on Broadway. Its career has been one of steady and solid growth, and in June, 1916, its savings deposits were $2,106,000, and its resources $2,336,000. The paid-up capital is $198,000, and the surplus $8000. A few years ago the bank introduced a school savings system into the public schools of the city and has the system still in operation. In 1910 the bank moved from its former location at Twelfth and Broadway into its present home at Thirteenth and Franklin streets, the building being an exclusive bank structure of classic architecture, finely fitted and furnished. The bank's officers and directors include some of the best-known figures in the public life of Oakland. President Edson F. Adams is a capitalist concerned with various large business enterprises, and Cashier George S. Meredith has been secretary of the Oakland Clearing House Association since its organization, has been prominent as an officer and a worker in the California Bankers' Association, and an active figure in various fraternal organizations. Samuel Bell McKee is vice president, and Frank C. Martens, assistant cashier.

BANK OF BURLINGAME

One of the most noted and most charming of the suburban residence towns on the San Francisco peninsula is Burlingame, and it is well served in the banking way by the Bank of Burlingame, which was organized in 1907, soon afterward being housed in a handsome concrete home. Its stockholders and directors have included San Francisco business men of large affairs, and it has prospered under a strong management from the beginning. Henry T. Scott, president of the Mercantile Trust Company of San Francisco and of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, was one of the first directors, and is now president. H. C. Ross is vice president,

and C. S. Crary cashier. One of the bank's organizers was Mahlon S. Crary, president of the Bank of Mayfield, who was a director until his death in 1915. In 1912 C. S. Crary, son of Mahlon S. Crary, who had had some years of successful banking experience in Mayfield, in the Merchants National Bank of San Francisco, and in the San Joaquin Valley, purchased an interest in the Bank of Burlingame and has since then been its cashier. The bank operates commercial and savings departments and has a capital of $50,000, savings deposits of about $200,000, and total resources of $400,000.

COLUSA COUNTY BANK

In 1870 the Colusa County Bank of Colusa was organized and began the successful career that has been maintained to the present time. This pioneer among the incorporated banks of the valley and state has for forty-six years played an important part in the development and prosperity of the Sacramento Valley, and is also worthy of particular note because of the distinguished pioneer names on the roll of its organizers. D. O. Mills was one of the first stockholders, and his brother, Edgar Mills, partner in the pioneer Sacramento banking firm of D. O. Mills & Co., was also a large stockholder and a director for many years. George Hagar and W. P. Harrington, long respectively president and vice president, were among the large shareholders, as were W. F. Goad, John Boggs, Calvin Paige, J. H. Jewett, and Peter Decker, the last two founders of the Decker, Jewett & Co. Bank of Marysville. With such a distinguished list of sponsors, known and honored throughout the valley, the bank naturally assumed and maintained a position of strength and influence at a county seat which was the business center of what for many years was the most famous grain district of the state. It made large commercial and real estate loans, pursued a conservative policy, and it was not very long before it reported resources of more than $1,000,000. Nearly all of the founders have since passed away, but the institution remains mainly in the control of their descendants. In recent years the bank has established branches at Maxwell and Grimes, has erected a handsome home, and it is closely affiliated, through common ownership of stock, with other flourishing banks of the valley. It now does an exclusive commercial business and displays totals of over $2,000,000. The paid-up capital is $500,000 and the surplus $250,000. President George Hagar and Cashier W. P. Harrington continued in executive control of the old institution for over a generation. In later years B. H. Burton, who began his service with the bank in 1876, became president, which office he still holds. A number of years ago T. Harrington, who joined the bank's forces in 1888, became cashier.

OTHER COLUSA BANKS

The Farmers and Merchants Bank of Colusa was established in 1902, with J. Dalzell Brown as president and J. B. de Jarnatt cashier. After the panic of 1907 it underwent a partial reorganization, with U. W. Brown president and H. F. Osgood cashier.

In 1911 the First National Bank was established and took over the commercial business of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, the latter changing its name to the First Savings Bank of Colusa. Both National and State institutions have retained U. W. Brown as president and H. F. Osgood as cashier.

BANKS OF AUBURN

The first incorporated bank in Auburn was the Placer County Bank, organized in 1887 with a capital of $20,000. It was one of the Sacramento Valley banks established by N. D. Rideout, who controlled it for many years as president and leading stockholder. T. J. Nichols was the first cashier and remained cashier or vice president for more than a generation. Upon the death of N. D. Rideout, Dunning Rideout became president. The institution became the largest and strongest bank in its field. Early in 1913 the Rideout interests were purchased by Alden Anderson and a reorganization followed, the bank continuing its conservative and prosperous career. In 1916 the capital was $100,000 and the resources about $800,000. The following were the officers: Alden Anderson, president; W. J. Wilson, Jr., and J. M. Francis, vice presidents, and George W. Eckhardt, cashier.

The Bank of Auburn was established in 1905 as an incorporation of a private bank, and was later absorbed by the Placer County Bank.

In 1908 the First National Bank was established and soon passed to the present interests and organization, which were in control of the Placer Loan Company and which substituted for the latter the Auburn Savings Bank, established as such in 1909. These

affiliated institutions have had a prosperous career under the administration of President E. T. Robie and Cashier G. W. Brundage.

BANKS OF DINUBA

The First National Bank of Dinuba was established in 1908 by the conversion of the Bank of Dinuba, founded in 1902. The organizers included F. H. Wilson and W. J. Dechman, who were respectively president and cashier for several years. At a later period the presidency was assumed by W. B. Nichols, who has been a leading horticulturist of the district since 1892 and who was one of the original stockholders and directors of the Bank of Dinuba. For a number of years Clarence Wilson was cashier, resigning in 1915 and being succeeded by C. R. Morton. In 1911 the Dinuba Savings Bank was organized by the stockholders of the First National. During the administration of President W. B. Nichols the resources of these institutions have reached figures in excess of $500,000, and a handsome modern bank home has been provided.

The United States National Bank of Dinuba was organized in 1908 by G. W. Wyllie and C. C. Threlkeld, who were respectively president and cashier until 1915, when Mr. Wyllie disposed of his interest and Mr. Threlkeld became president and Rex P. Harbert cashier.

BANKING IN ANAHEIM

Four good banks, organized in recent years, serve the flourishing town and region of Anaheim in Orange County, Southern California. The oldest is the First National, organized in 1902 by John Hartung and associates. In 1905 those controlling the First National established the American Savings Bank. Mr. Hartung was president of both institutions until January, 1905, when he sold his interests in those banks to C. E. Holcomb, former cashier of the First National, who became president of the two banks. E. J. Hartung is cashier of the First National, which has had a very successful career.

In 1905 the German-American Bank was organized with commercial and savings departments, and has prospered under the administration of President Adolph Thomas and Cashier A. B. McCord. The capital is $50,000. A very handsome new home was erected in 1914 at a cost of $50,000.

The latest institution is the Southern County Bank, established in 1912.

The Anaheim National Bank was organized in 1912 with a capital of $50,000 and with Charles Eygabroad president, F. C. Krause cashier, and Marco H. Hellman on the board of directors. In February, 1916, Mr. Eygabroad retired, Mr. Krause becoming president and E. S. Goble cashier.

FIRST BANK OF HERMOSA BEACH

The First Bank of Hermosa Beach is one of the group of younger banks of Southern California organized in answer to demands created by the building up of new and prosperous communities. This institution serves a town and district favorably located on the coast of Los Angeles County. It was organized in January, 1913, and is one of the prosperous banks controlled by Marco H. Hellman of Los Angeles, and associates. The initial capital of $25,000 has been increased to $30,000, and the surplus is steadily growing. For some time a commercial department only was operated, but in 1916 a savings department was added. Since organization the officers have been as follows: President, J. E. Walker; vice presidents, R. E. Matteson and Marco H. Hellman; cashier, G. S. Thatcher. The bank is housed in a fine, modern home.

THREE FULLERTON INSTITUTIONS

The Farmers and Merchants Bank of Fullerton was established in 1904 with C. C. Chapman president and Arthur Staley cashier. One of the original organizers and directors was E. K. Benchley, who is now president. After a short period Samuel Kramer became president and F. H. Daley cashier. In 1909 the bank became the Farmers and Merchants National Bank, with F. H. Daley president and G. C. Crandall cashier. In 1911 E. K. Benchley purchased a controlling interest and became president. Later the cashiership was assumed by C. W. Crandall. The bank has grown steadily through the years and has provided itself with a fine modern home.

The First National Bank was established in 1900 and the affiliated Fullerton Savings Bank in 1906. Both are prosperous institutions under the management of President J. E. Jones and Vice President and Cashier E. E. Balcom. For many years the late Bayless G. Balcom was president of both institutions.

SACRAMENTO BANKS

THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO has a banking history reaching back to the historic days of 1849. Banking began here at about the same initial period in which it began in San Francisco, as is related in the general story elsewhere. As the principal connecting point by steamer with the richest gold fields it leaped into prominence immediately as the trading point next in importance to San Francisco, and from the beginning it was a natural and convenient market where the winners of gold dust could buy with it supplies they wanted, deposit it for safe keeping, or exchange it for drafts to be sent East. The merchants and express companies handled here large amounts of gold and with these transactions banking functions were mixed.

NATIONAL BANK OF D. O. MILLS & CO.

Amid these conditions was established an institution which today flourishes as the oldest bank, not only in California but on the Pacific Coast. In 1849 D. O. Mills, who had been cashier of a bank in Buffalo, N. Y., arrived and opened a general store, in which gold dust was purchased or received for goods and exchange sold. In the following year, 1850, Mr. Mills established the private bank of D. O. Mills & Co., in association with his cousin, E. J. Townsend, a banker in Buffalo, N. Y. In 1852 Edgar Mills and Henry Miller were taken into the partnership, Mr. Townsend having retired. The merchandise business had before this been sold. During the next twenty years the bank grew and prospered and was known as one of the strong and ably administered financial institutions of the state. The subsequent career of D. O. Mills, one of the most eminent financiers of the Coast and the country, need not be here recounted. During many years Edgar Mills and Henry Miller were also leading figures in the financial life of Sacramento Valley and were associated with the organization of other banks established at later times.

In 1872 the private bank of D. O. Mills & Co. entered the National system as the National Gold Bank of D. O. Mills & Co., which became one of the pioneer National banks of the state, the first one having been organized in the previous year. At this time it was the only incorporated commercial bank in Sacramento and it so remained until 1882, although three savings banks had been incorporated meantime. D. O. Mills remained president during his California career. He was succeeded in the presidency by Edgar Mills. Frank Miller, who was long cashier, was an able and well-known figure in the banking world. In 1883, after the resumption of specie payments, the word "gold" was dropped from the name. The relations of the bank with the Bank of California, at San Francisco, have been intimate since the organization of the latter in 1864, D. O. Mills being its first president, and in later years they became further cemented through stock ownership.

A statement made in 1888 shows a paid-up capital of $500,000, deposits of $1,555,000, and resources of $2,263,000. The directors and the number of shares at $100 they held were then as follows: D. O. Mills, 1538; Edgar Mills (president), 1538; Frank Miller (cashier), 351; S. P. Smith, 250; C. F. Dillman, 125. Through succeeding years the bank continued to grow and in 1916 reported assets of $7,150,000. C. F. Dillman, who has been with the bank for over forty years, has now long been president. Frank H. Pierce is cashier. Frank B. Anderson, president of the Bank of California N. A., and W. R. Pentz, also an officer of that institution, are among the directors. The bank's home is a costly granite structure of classic architectural design.

SACRAMENTO BANK.

The Sacramento Bank is the second oldest existing bank at the state capital and was established in 1875. Although it was organized under the general corporation law, rather than the savings bank act, and was formerly classed as a commercial bank, it has always done an exclusive savings bank business.

The leading founder was W. P. Coleman, a pioneer agriculturist and real estate operator, who was president for many years and who died in 1900. Philip Scheld, another pioneer, early became a large stockholder and had been president many years when he died in 1913. For many years the active management of the bank has been in the hands of J. M. Henderson, Jr., who was associated with W. P. Coleman's business from boyhood and who became cashier many years ago, succeeding Edward R. Hamilton. He succeeded to the presidency upon the death of Mr. Scheld. Mr. Henderson has had a distinguished career as a banker, both in the administration of other important banks and as a leader in the California Bankers' Association. He is also a large fruit and

stock raiser. The bank early accumulated large deposits and has loaned many millions on real estate in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. When the bank was ten years old its resources were over $2,500,000; in 1905 they were $4,000,000, and in 1916 they had risen to $9,800,000. The paid-up capital is $1,000,000. In 1916 the officers were: President, J. M. Henderson, Jr.; vice president, J. H. Stephens; cashier, H. W. Conger; assistant cashier, George S. Bullock. A suburban branch is operated in Oak Park.

PEOPLE'S SAVINGS BANK.

In 1879 the People's Savings Bank was established, giving Sacramento three incorporated institutions. The leading founder was William Beckman, a pioneer of 1851 who has been president of the bank since its beginning. Since early life he has been associated with the agricultural and financial interests of the valley, and has been prominent in public life. J. L. Huntoon was one of the largest stockholders and a vice president from the beginning until his death in 1912. For many years W. F. Huntoon was cashier, and in recent years J. E. Huntoon, who has been with the bank for twenty-five years, has occupied that office. For some time the office of cashier was filled by A. G. Folger, now vice president, who has been with the bank for over a generation. Possessing the unbroken confidence of the public from the beginning, by reason of the personnel of its management and the conservatism of its policy, the bank has shown steady progress through the years and maintained its position as one of the leading savings banks of the interior. Its large volume of real estate loans has been of great service in the development of the interior valley, with which development the bank has been in intimate touch for nearly forty years. The bank is housed in a modern steel-frame bank and office structure of seven stories. Its capital and surplus are $520,000, its savings deposits $3,700,000, and its resources $4,675,000.

CALIFORNIA NATIONAL.

The year 1882 saw the establishment of what was destined to become the largest commercial bank of the Sacramento Valley. This was the California State Bank, later to become the present California National Bank. This was another of the banking institutions solidly founded in the past by that eminent pioneer banker, N. D. Rideout. Mr. Rideout held 3300 of 5000 shares at organization, other holdings of the first directors being 200 shares each by C. W. Clarke, Fred Cox, A. Gallatin, and George C. Perkins, and 100 shares each by A. Abbott and J. R. Watson. The bank began with an authorized capital of $500,000, of which $100,000 was paid in, periodical increases being made in succeeding years. For a number of years N. D. Rideout was president, and A. Abbott cashier. Within ten years the resources expanded to $1,000,000. In after years N. D. Rideout retired and was succeeded as president by Fred Cox. Later the office was assumed by the present president, W. E. Gerber, who entered the employ of the bank very shortly after its organization and who has risen through all the official grades of the service.

In 1893 the paid-in capital was $250,000 and the resources $1,475,000. During the prosperous years following the depression of the nineties new interests became identified with the bank, in succession to the Rideout interests, and the institution achieved a striking expansion. George W. Peltier secured an important interest and has since been, as vice president, the most active power in the bank's management, as well as a leading figure in the banking and business field in other ways. F. W. Kiesel, then a young man of wealth, became associated with the bank and later assumed his present office as cashier. A statement of the bank in 1905 showed an authorized capital of $1,000,000, of which $878,000 was paid in, while the resources during a comparatively short period of progress had risen to $4,300,000. The bank was nationalized not long after and began its new career as the California National Bank in January, 1907. Beginning in 1905, this bank made a specialty of the accounts of interior banks and effected a large success, much of the subsequent increase in deposits coming from other banks. The total deposits in January, 1905, were $3,240,000; 1907, $6,230,000; 1909, $7,137,000; 1911, $9,900,000.

In 1912 the California Savings Bank was organized with the same stockholders and directors as the National bank, and given quarters in the large structure which the parent bank erected some years ago. The savings bank had acquired deposits of over $2,000,000 in 1916. The California National Bank has a capital of $1,000,000, surplus of $250,000, and resources of $11,300,000. The officers are: President, W. E. Gerber; vice

presidents, George W. Peltier and George A. White; cashier, F. W. Kiesel; assistant cashiers, Egbert A. Brown, Fred L. Martin, and J. I. Brunschwiler.

FARMERS AND MECHANICS SAVINGS.

The Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank was founded in 1890 with Leland Stanford and associates as leading stockholders, and B. U. Steinman as president. The paid-in capital was $100,000, later doubled. In 1910 a controlling interest was bought by George W. Peltier, vice president of the California National Bank, and associates, and the capital was increased to $350,000. Mr. Peltier was president for a time. A modern six-story bank and office building was erected and the board of directors was enlarged to nineteen, including well-known capitalists, merchants, bankers, and professional men, representative of the wealth and industry of the city and valley. Since then the resources have about doubled. The officers are: President, Robert M. Richardson; vice presidents, Marshall Diggs, Peter J. Shields, J. C. Coffing, and Philip Wolf; cashier, Montfort K. Crowell.

FORT SUTTER NATIONAL.

The Fort Sutter National Bank is one of the four National banks of the state's capital which have the Sacramento Valley for their field. It was established in 1905 and was operated for some years under the management of George J. Bryte and A. L. Darrow, who were successive presidents, and C. W. Conger, who was cashier previous to 1910, at about which time he became for a time cashier of the Sacramento Valley Trust Company. Early in 1912 a controlling interest in the bank was secured by J. M. Henderson, Jr., and associates in the Sacramento Bank, and the Fort Sutter National underwent a reorganization and received a new administration, Mr. Henderson becoming president and J. H. Stephens vice president, while H. W. Conger returned to the cashiership. The board of directors is composed of prominent business men identified with the larger interests of the valley and their development. The bank does a commercial business exclusively and is closely affiliated with the Sacramento Bank, which operates entirely as a savings bank.

CAPITAL NATIONAL BANK.

The Capital National Bank is the latest reinforcement to the banking strength and prestige of Sacramento and the empire it commands. It was established in 1912 as a conversion of the commercial department of the Capital Banking and Trust Company, a small financial institution incorporated in 1893, but one that did not appear in official banking reports until 1907. At this time the stock had been acquired by Alden Anderson, George H. Peltier, and F. W. Kiesel. Alden Anderson was president, and W. W. Bassett cashier. At a later time Mr. Anderson acquired control and the National bank was organized by him, the old institution continuing as a savings bank until 1915, when it was bought by the Sacramento Bank.

The organization of the Capital National was effected not long after the retirement from the office of Superintendent of Banks of Alden Anderson, and practically marked his entry into the California banking field as a banker with widespread interests, being identified with about twenty interior institutions and president of several. Mr. Anderson began his business career in the Sacramento Valley, where he was long identified with the fruit industry and was organizer and manager of the selling organization of the valley fruit raisers. He was also identified with important industrial corporations. He was a member of the Legislature for some years and then Lieutenant Governor. He was long a director of the California National Bank at Sacramento, becoming later a vice president of the Anglo & London Paris National Bank of San Francisco, and then Superintendent of Banks.

The Capital National began business in January, 1912, with Alden Anderson, president; F. W. Biewener, vice president, and W. W. Bassett, cashier. The bank has erected a handsome building and has taken its place as one of the strong interior banking institutions of the state. In 1916 the capital was $200,000, the surplus $100,000, and the resources $4,100,000.

OTHER LATER DAY BANKS.

The Sacramento Valley Bank and Trust Company entered the Sacramento banking field in 1910 as the Sacramento Valley Trust Company, effecting a change in name in 1912. The bank was established by the interests then in control of the Fort Sutter National Bank, with a capital of $225,000, since increased to $600,000. A. Bonnheim was president until 1914, when George J. Bryte assumed the office. E. L. Southworth and F. L. Holland are vice presidents, and William Skeels cashier. The bank operates

commercial, trust, and savings departments and a branch at Ione.

The Citizens Bank of Oak Park was established in 1909, and in 1912 was taken over and reorganized by Alden Anderson and associates. At Oak Park, a suburb now part of the city, is a branch of the Sacramento Bank.

The Nippon Bank is a small Japanese commercial institution established in 1907. The Goethe Bank, organized in 1903, and the Japanese Bank of Sacramento, established in 1906, have passed out of existence, the latter by an early failure.

BUTTE COUNTY BANKS

Butte County, through its two chief cities of Oroville and Chico, claims a distinguished place in the banking history, as well as in other phases of the development of the Sacramento Valley. Oroville early became the center of a large and rich mining district, and its pioneer merchants combined financial operations more or less with their trading after the fashion of the day.

OROVILLE BANKS.

In 1866 the private banking firm of Rideout & Smith of Marysville was established also in Oroville and began a successful career. The bank was later incorporated as the Bank of Rideout, Smith & Co., but the decadence of mining for a period much lessened the scale of its operations, which, however, later expanded to a new high record. N. D. Rideout was president until his death in 1907, when the presidency was assumed by his widow, Phebe M. Rideout, a lady distinguished by marked ability. The bank prospered with the splendid industrial and horticultural development that came to the Oroville region, and in 1912 the Rideout, Smith National Bank was organized to take over the commercial business of the Bank of Rideout, Smith & Co., the latter since that time conducting a savings business exclusively. The National bank was organized with a capital of $300,000, and with Phebe M. Rideout as president, Dunning Rideout as first vice president, and L. L. Green, vice president and cashier, these retaining the same offices in the State institution. Since the death of his father, Dunning Rideout has been the active manager of the various banking and other interests left in successful operation by N. D. Rideout.

In 1892 the Bank of Oroville was organized under the control of S. C. Lillis, who later became president. The First National Bank was organized afterward to take over the commercial business of the bank, the Bank of Oroville continuing business as a savings bank. The banks have prospered under the administration of Cashier W. W. Gingles.

CHICO INSTITUTIONS.

Chico is honored with the record of two of the pioneer incorporated banks of the Sacramento Valley, the Bank of Chico and the Bank of Butte County, organized in 1872 and 1873, respectively. These institutions were built on strong foundations and maintained a splendid record for two generations, the latter becoming the Butte County National Bank in 1908, and absorbing the Bank of Chico when the latter voluntarily retired from the field in 1915.

In 1872, not long after the opening of through railroad communication to the East, the California and Oregon branch of the Central Pacific had been extended northward through Chico to Red Bluff. With this opening of a rich farming and grazing country, Chico, then a small trading point, began to grow. In the year mentioned J. R. Robinson, then agent for Wells Fargo & Co. at Chico, induced his former employers, John Conley and Alex H. Crew, then in banking in Plumas County, to establish their business at Chico, which they did by incorporating the Bank of Chico, Mr. Conley being president and Mr. Crew cashier. Orrin Gowell acquired an important interest in the bank and was later president. At a later time W. W. Heath was president and a large stockholder, and in still later years the bank had for its president Park Henshaw, who was a man widely known in his day. In 1913 a controlling interest in the bank was purchased by W. S. Kilpatric, who was president until the sale in 1915.

BUTTE COUNTY NATIONAL.

Though the Bank of Chico was always a strong institution for its field, the lead was soon acquired and thereafter maintained by the Bank of Butte County, which began its career in 1873. This was another of the successful and enduring Sacramento Valley banks organized under the leadership of N. D. Rideout, with whom were associated in this venture William Smith and Charles Faulkner, who were also experienced bankers of that part of the valley. The first stockholders included the distinguished pio-

neer, John Bidwell, and George C. Perkins, later Governor and United States Senator, who was a director for many years. N. D. Rideout remained president until his death in 1907, when he was succeeded by F. C. Lusk, who had been vice president for many years. Mr. Lusk died in 1913, when William J. O'Connor, a large and successful farmer and fruit raiser of the county, who had acquired an important interest in the bank in 1909, became president. Charles Faulkner was cashier until his death in 1897, when he was succeeded by Assistant Cashier J. R. Robinson, who had been with the bank since its organization. Mr. Robinson retired in 1912 and died in 1915. He was succeeded in the office by Ed Harkness. In recent years Major A. F. Jones became actively interested in the bank as a stockholder and vice president.

Through the years the capital remained at $250,000. The bank's resources were $700,000 in 1883, $900,000 in 1893, over $1,000,000 ten years later, and $1,250,000 when it was nationalized as the Butte County National Bank in 1909. It has maintained its growth since then.

The growth of the city and region led to the organization, in 1905, of the Butte County Savings Bank by the stockholders of the National institution, the officers of both banks being the same at first. This bank also grew steadily, took over the savings business of the Bank of Chico when the latter was sold in 1915, and in 1916 the deposits were over $1,000,000.

FIRST NATIONAL OF CHICO.

In 1907, when Chico had become a flourishing little city of 12,000, the First National Bank was organized with W. J. Miller president, C. B. Swain vice president, and A. H. Smith cashier. Mr. Miller was a large agriculturist and stock raiser of that region, as had been his father, Joseph Miller. In 1915, upon the death of Mr. Miller, A. H. Smith became president and T. N. Crew cashier. The resources were over $1,100,000.

The People's Savings and Commercial Bank was established in 1914 by the interests controlling the First National Bank.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY BANK.

The Sacramento Valley Bank, established at Biggs in 1891, is one of the very successful newer institutions of the valley and is located in a rich and progressively developing region. The bank also operates at Butte City a branch established in 1910. Both the main bank and the Biggs branch are housed in handsome modern buildings constructed exclusively for the banks. J. M. Brough has for many years been the cashier and active executive officer of the Sacramento Valley Bank, and the branch at Biggs is under the management of J. H. Brough. Both men are progressive bankers, well known in the valley. Other officers of the bank are: President, J. M. Hastings; vice president, S. McKee; secretary, J. A. Foster. The resources are about $500,000.

OTHER BANKS.

One of the important interior banking points of the county is Gridley, where the Rideout Bank of Marysville established a branch in 1884. In 1914 this branch bank reported deposits of $640,000.

The Gridley State Bank was organized in 1906. C. W. Putnam is president, H. C. Veatch vice president, and J. A. Shafer cashier.

The Stirling City Bank was established at Stirling City in 1903 as a result of the operations of the Diamond Match Company. It was sold to the First National Bank of Chico in 1915.

The Commercial Bank of Durham was established at Durham in 1912.

BANKING AT MARYSVILLE

Since the early '60s at least, Marysville has been ably served in a banking way almost exclusively by two sets of pioneer banking interests, represented today by the incorporated State institutions, the Decker, Jewett & Co. Bank and the Rideout Bank. In the early fifties Marysville, at the head of navigation on the Feather River, was the valley supply point for the upper Sierra gold fields and was second in business importance to Sacramento. Private banking began here in the early fifties, the most noteworthy instance being the establishment of Low Brothers, headed by F. F. Low, later so distinguished in the financial and political life of the state. N. D. Rideout was another pioneer banker of this city and region.

DECKER, JEWETT & CO. BANK.

The private bank of Decker, Jewett & Co. was established in 1858 and incorporated in 1888. The last official report as a private bank in 1888 showed Peter Decker, J. H. Jewett, and A. C. Bingham as the partners.

The bank was incorporated with a capital of $100,000, with J. H. Jewett president and controlling stockholder and A. C. Bingham as cashier. Resources for some years ranged between $450,000 and $500,000. A few years after incorporation an important interest was acquired by Elliott McAllister, who later became president. Mr. McAllister has for many years given his time mainly to his law office in San Francisco, while keeping in close touch with the bank he heads. In 1916 A. C. Bingham was still cashier, and the bank's resources were about $750,000.

THE RIDEOUT BANK.

N. D. Rideout began banking operations at Marysville and other valley points in the fifties. In 1888 N. D. and Norman Rideout were the partners in the private banking firm of Rideout & Smith, Bankers, operating banks at Marysville, Oroville, and Gridley, with a capital of $300,000 and resources of $1,500,000. The Rideout Bank of Marysville was incorporated in 1890 with a capital of $250,000 and with N. D. Rideout president, Norman Rideout vice president, and C. S. Brooks cashier. Since the death of N. D. Rideout in 1907 the presidency has been held by his widow, Phebe M. Rideout. Dunning Rideout is vice president, and W. B. Swain cashier. The capital and surplus are $520,000, and the resources $2,600,000. Branches are maintained at Gridley and Live Oak.

In 1889 the stockholders of the Rideout Bank incorporated the Northern California Bank of Savings, which has acquired resources of over $2,000,000. G. R. Eckart is cashier.

IMPERIAL VALLEY BANKS

THE WONDERFUL DEVELOPMENT of the Imperial Valley in Southern California, which has been accomplished in little more than a decade, has been greatly dependent on a group of banking institutions located in several of the flourishing towns that have rapidly evolved into busy and prosperous modern municipalities. Irrigation began in this fertile stretch of former desert about 1901, and as early as 1903 the first bank was established at Brawley, a young town at about the center of the valley. Two years later Calexico, on the Mexican boundary, became a banking town, and soon afterward Imperial and Holtville offered banking facilities to multiplying colonists. El Centro followed in 1909, and in 1914 a bank was established at Heber. The remarkable agricultural development in population and wealth that has followed the efficient bestowal of water on over 400,000 acres of land blessed with a climate exceptionally favorable to many profitable crops has given prosperity and steady growth to the banks of the valley, which have been vital factors in the successful production and marketing of the rapidly expanding agricultural output. There were in 1916 a dozen banks flourishing in the six towns named, and in no part of the state are the bankers more intimately identified with all the economic and civic interests of their region. In 1914 the bankers of the valley took an enterprising step by organizing the Imperial Valley Bankers' Association in their mutual interest and for co-operative effort in matters of public concern.

BANKING IN BRAWLEY.

In 1903 the Imperial Valley Bank, the pioneer of the valley, was established at Brawley with a paid up capital of $16,000, under the presidency of F. C. Paulin. W. T. Dunn, a stockholder and director, was the first cashier. In 1906 W. F. Holt succeeded to the presidency for a short time, being succeeded by W. T. Dunn. The authorized capital of $25,000 was soon paid up, and a steady growth was experienced. In 1910, upon the organization of the First National Bank, the name was changed to Imperial Valley Savings Bank, and as such it has since progressed, under the administration of President W. T. Dunn and Cashier M. G. Doud, until the resources have reached $350,000. W. H. Best is vice president.

The interests controlling the Imperial Valley Bank established the First National Bank in 1910 that they might give better service to the fast-growing commercial interests of Brawley and its region. The bank has had a very successful career under the administration of President W. T. Dunn and Cashier F. F. Palmerlee.

The American State Bank was organized in 1914 with a capital of $50,000. The officers were: President, F. S. Lack; vice president, P. P. Hovley; cashier, William M. Smith. A year later Mr. Hovley became president and Mr. Lack vice president.

The International Banking Company, established at Brawley in 1905, had a career lasting but a few months.

BANKS OF IMPERIAL.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank of Imperial is one of the pioneer institutions of the valley that have shared in its splendid development and achieved enduring strength and influence. It had its origin in the Imperial City Bank, organized in 1907 with George P. Blair president and Byron H. Cook cashier. Reorganization followed after a time, and in 1910 it became the Farmers and Merchants Bank, with L. J. Thomas president, R. H. Benton vice president, and E. C. Hazzard cashier. In 1911 A. E. Wright succeeded to the presidency, and a little later Otto Storm assumed the cashiership. This official organization has since remained in effect. The bank conducts commercial and savings deposits, and its resources have reached $250,000.

The First National Bank of Imperial began its career in 1908 and is one of the flourishing banks of the valley established and controlled by Leroy Holt. Since the beginning Leroy Holt has remained president and O. K. Thomas cashier. Its capital and surplus are each $50,000.

EL CENTRO INSTITUTIONS.

Banking began in El Centro in 1909, in which year two National institutions were established. The First National was organized under the leadership and presidency of Leroy Holt, with a capital of $25,000. The first vice president was R. B. Moore, who resigned in 1910. From the beginning until 1915 J. V. Wachtel, Jr., was cashier, becoming a vice president in the year mentioned, and retiring soon afterward. Upon his retirement Assistant Cashier T. T. Cook became cashier. Leroy Holt was still president in 1916, and Franklin J. Cole vice president. From its organization the bank expanded rapidly with the large development of the city and valley, the growth being evidenced by an increase of the capital to $100,000 and the creation of a surplus of $50,000.

The El Centro National Bank, also established in 1909, has since grown steadily under the continued presidency of F. B. Fuller. True Vencill was the first cashier, but was soon succeeded by F. W. Wilson. In 1916 the officers were: President, B. F. Fuller; vice president, W. T. Bill; cashier, T. L. Doherty. The bank has expanded rapidly and become one of the strongest institutions of the valley.

In 1912 the stockholders of the First National organized the Security Savings Bank with a capital of $25,000, the officers being Leroy Holt, president; J. V. Wachtel, Jr., vice president; J. S. Ross, secretary, and T. L. Doherty, cashier. In 1914 the bank underwent a reorganization after the purchase of an interest by R. R. Brundage, who became president. The name of the bank was then changed to Security Commercial and Savings Bank. J. K. Hermon is vice president and O. G. Horne cashier.

BANKS OF CALEXICO.

At Calexico, at the Mexican boundary, the prosperity generated by the success with cotton, alfalfa, barley, and other products has developed two strong National banks. The First State Bank, established in 1908, with F. Kloke president, was followed in the succeeding year by the Calexico National Bank, organized by the same interests. In 1910 the First State Bank became the Calexico Savings Bank, which was voluntarily dissolved in 1912. The Calexico National has grown rapidly under the administration of President F. Kloke and Cashier William Guntermann.

The First National Bank of Calexico was opened for business early in 1910, and in 1916 its deposits were over $500,000 and its capital had been increased to $100,000. At its organization Sidney McHarg was president and J. A. Morrison cashier. In 1916 the officers were: J. M. Edmunds, president; M. H. Sherman, vice president; D. A. Leonard, vice president and cashier.

HOLTVILLE AND HEBER.

Banking began at Holtville in 1908 with the organization of the Citizens Bank, of which Leroy Holt was president and R. G. Webster cashier. In the following year it was converted into the First National Bank of Holtville with the same organization. The bank has maintained a steady growth, and in 1916 the capital and surplus were $100,000.

In 1911 the Holtville Bank was organized as a State institution, with M. L. Hazzard president and O. N. Shaw cashier. Mr. Shaw later assumed the presidency and R. W. Hoover became cashier.

The youngest bank in the valley is the First National of Heber, established in 1914, Frank and B. C. Beers, president and cashier respectively. In 1916 the interests of the Messrs. Beers were acquired by A. W. Beed and W. A. Harlan, the former becoming president and the latter cashier.

PASADENA'S FIRST NATIONAL AND ITS SISTER BANK

PASADENA'S OLDEST BANK is the First National, which started with the beginning of the city in the boom period of Southern California colonization. It was the Pasadena Bank at first and was incorporated in December, 1884, beginning operations early in the following year. P. M. Green was president and D. Galbraith cashier. Its paid in capital was $10,000. In 1886 it became the First National Bank, with a capital of $100,000 and with P. M. Green president and J. E. Farnum cashier. There were but few National banks in the state at that time. It grew so fast that in two years its resources were over $700,000. The period of the early '90s saw a check to its growth, but this was resumed with returning prosperity.

The bank underwent various changes in organization in later years. In 1910 we find a surplus of $165,000, built up out of profits. In that year the dividend rate was increased from 12 to 16 per cent. The resources were not far below $2,000,000. In 1911 Ernest H. May, who had been president for some time, sold his interest and retired, being succeeded by Wm. H. Vedder, who had been a vice president since 1908. Mr. Vedder was one of the organizers and officers of the Pasadena Trust and Savings Bank, which was established in 1901 in affiliation with the First National, and has long been a leading figure in the business life of the city. In 1914 the capital was increased from $100,000 to $200,000 by transfer from surplus, the capital of the Pasadena Trust and Savings Bank being similarly increased to $200,000 and a trust department established. At the same time Wm. H. Vedder was made chairman of the board and Cashier A. E. Edwards, who had risen through all grades of the service during his association with the bank, which began in 1900, was made president. Assistant Cashier J. S. Macdonnell was made cashier, and in 1915 he was made vice president and cashier. A. K. McQuilling and H. C. Hotaling are also vice presidents and T. W. Smith is assistant cashier.

Early in 1917 the capital stock of the First National and the Pasadena Trust and Savings Bank was increased in each case from $200,000 to $300,000. The resources of the First National were $2,878,000 and of the Pasadena Trust and Savings Bank $3,750,000.

UNION NATIONAL OF PASADENA

THE UNION NATIONAL BANK of Pasadena and the Union Trust and Savings Bank are affiliated institutions which have had distinguished careers of success. The Union National was founded in 1908 by Benjamin F. Ball and associates. Mr. Ball had previously been a vice president of the First National Bank, which he had helped to organize. He retired from this bank in 1904 and in the following year he, with his son-in-law, H. I. Stuart, who had been with the First National for many years, and E. H. Groendyke of Los Angeles, purchased a controlling interest in the Union Savings Bank, which had been established in 1895. Mr. Stuart became president and Mr. Groendyke cashier.

In 1908 these same associates organized the Union National Bank, of which Messrs. Stuart and Groendyke were also president and cashier, respectively. In 1911 the San Gabriel Valley Bank was absorbed and the Union Savings Bank became the Union Trust and Savings Bank. Benjamin F. Ball died in 1910 and E. H. Groendyke in 1916. Both the Union National and its affiliated institution have acquired large strength through years of growth. In 1916 Union National reported capital of $100,000; surplus and profits, $114,500; resources, $3,097,000. The Union Trust and Savings Bank reported a capital of $425,000; surplus and profits, $131,000; resources, $5,236,350. The principal officers of both banks are: Frank C. Bolt, chairman; H. I. Stuart, president; C. J. Hall and S. Washburn, vice presidents; W. A. Barnes, cashier.

NATIONAL BANK OF PASADENA

THIS STRONG INSTITUTION of today is the product of mergers and the scion of an honorable ancestry. Isaias W. Hellman, the distinguished banker of Los Angeles and San Francisco, headed the organization, in 1886, of the Pasadena National Bank, with a capital of $50,000. Mr. Hellman was president and G. A. Swartout cashier. In 1886 the capital was doubled as the bank's business rapidly grew. In 1890 A. H. Conger was cashier. Later E. F. Spence became president and T. C. Lukens cashier, Mr. Hellman remaining on the directorate. Subsequent changes brought to the presidency Henry M. Newby and to the cashiership E. J. Pyle. In 1908, under this administration, the resources were a little over $1,000,000. In 1914 they had risen to $3,300,000, and in

this year the old and prosperous institution was housed in a costly new home of monumental style.

The Crown City National Bank was established in 1909 by J. B. Coulston, who was its president. The capital was $100,000. The bank grew and in 1914 absorbed the still younger National Bank of Commerce. Mr. Coulston also controlled the Crown City Trust and Savings Bank, of which he was and still is president and which is one of the strong and flourishing State institutions of Southern California.

It was in 1914 that J. B. Coulston effected the consolidation of the Pasadena National and Crown City National, under the charter of the National Bank of Commerce through a change of name to the National Bank of Pasadena. The new board of officers and directors was made up from the organizations of the merged banks, with J. B. Coulston president, E. J. Pyle cashier, and Henry Newby chairman of the board. The fine home of the Pasadena National was occupied by the enlarged institution. At the time of merger the capital was $300,000 and the resources over $3,000,000.

In March, 1917, the capital was $400,000 and the resources $3,900,000. The officers were: J. B. Coulston, president; Edward J. Pyle, Chas. N. Post, Chas. A. Goodyear, J. H. Woodworth, and L. A. Boadway, vice presidents; Leon B. Shaw, cashier; Herbert C. Holt and W. R. Scoville, assistant cashiers.

CITIZENS SAVINGS OF PASADENA

One of the young and vigorously growing State banks of Southern California is the Citizens Savings Bank of Pasadena, which was established in 1912 by W. H. Hubbard, under whose presidency it has remained. The capital has been increased from $125,000 to $300,000, with a healthy surplus. Both commercial and savings departments are operated, dividing nearly equally the volume of business and resources, the latter being $1,232,000 at the end of 1916, showing a rapid increase. The bank has erected a handsome six-story bank and office building in which it has a splendidly equipped home.

The officers in 1917 are: W. H. Hubbard, president; Charles W. Durand, Henry T. Hazard, Doctor W. C. Watson, and M. Vilas Hubbard, vice presidents; Francis J. Kennett, cashier.

BANKING IN SAN DIEGO

The development of banking in San Diego up to a recent time has been briefly summarized as follows by M. I. Gilmore, president of the San Diego Savings Bank, who has been a banker in that city since 1883, and who organized the San Diego Savings Bank in 1889:

"The Bank of San Diego was formed in 1870, and in 1873, owing to the impetus of what is known as the 'Tom Scott boom,' which strongly possessed the minds of the people and led to bright prophecies for the future of the young city, a second bank was organized as the Commercial Bank of San Diego. After this boom of the early '70s had spent its force these two banks were merged in 1879 under the name of the Consolidated Bank of San Diego, and the city again took on the appearance of a country town. This institution held a monopoly of the banking business until 1883. During that year the First National Bank was organized and has ever since been an important factor in the business life of San Diego.

"About 1886 the city suffered another serious spasm of inflated values and by 1887 a boom of great proportions menaced the sane business development of San Diego and vicinity. By 1889 six more banks had been added to the list as follows: The Savings Bank of San Diego County, the Bank of San Diego, the Bank of Commerce, the California National Bank, the California Savings Bank, and the San Diego Savings Bank.

"In 1893 a world-wide business depression, which had been gathering in force for some years, culminated in a measure of panic and many failures. During this crisis five of the eight banks then doing business were eliminated from the list, leaving three, the First National Bank, the Bank of Commerce, and the San Diego Savings Bank. To these were added in 1893 the Merchants National Bank and the Blochman Banking Company, and these five banks were the only ones in operation during the next decade, or until 1904.

"The years of severest testing for the banking business of San Diego were from 1893 to 1897. During this time the 'sixteen-to-one' silver propaganda of William J. Bryan was under discussion and proved a disturbing element in the financial world. In 1907 the banks successfully passed through a lesser crisis than that of 1893.

In the main there has been a minimum of difficulty and, with few and brief exceptions, the financial life of San Diego has been singularly free from stress and disaster.

"In the year 1900 banking affairs seemed to take on new life and by 1904 deposits had increased to such an extent that men of considerable banking experience in other cities saw the opportunity of entering a field which gave promise of great profits. As a result, from the five banks doing business at the close of 1893 the number has now increased to twelve banking institutions, all in excellent condition and furnishing competition sufficient to insure to the public the best of service. Statistics show the years of greatest growth to be those from 1901 to 1913, the approximate deposits being $1,800,000 in 1901 and $21,000,000 in 1913."

SOUTHERN TRUST AND SAVINGS

Two State banks organized at about the same time in San Diego in 1907 rapidly grew up to be among that city's strongest institutions, and then, in 1917, were consolidated into an institution with capital and surplus of over $1,000,000 and resources of over $9,000,000. These were the Southern Trust and Savings Bank and the Bank of Commerce and Trust Company, the latter losing its identity in the name of the former.

The Southern Trust and Savings Bank was organized under the leadership of G. Aubrey Davidson, who has since been its president, in addition to his many other activities in business and public life. While president of the Chamber of Commerce he conceived the plan of the Panama-California International Exposition, which achieved a success under his presidency in 1915 and 1916. The bank's original paid-up capital was $125,000, later increased to $250,000, and then, in 1914, to $350,000, with $500,000 authorized. In the latter year a trust department was established. Under the original organization, which included Philip Morse as vice president and E. O. Hodge as cashier, the bank advanced steadily year by year, establishing a branch at La Jolla, and displaying resources of $3,500,000 in its commercial, savings, and trust departments in 1917.

The Bank of Commerce and Trust Company was established in 1907 through the consolidation of the Security Savings Bank and Trust Company and the National Bank of Commerce by Julius Wangenheim, who was continuously president until the consolidation, when he became chairman of the Southern Trust and Savings, Mr. Davidson remaining president. The paid-in capital was $500,000, at which figure it remained. The reports of the bank through the decade of its existence show a striking and consistent growth.

In January, 1917, surplus and undivided profits amounted to over $300,000, deposits to $4,223,200, and the resources to $5,027,000. This was the largest volume of resources which had then been attained by a San Diego bank. J. S. Hawley, Jr., was cashier during the earlier years, later becoming vice president and being succeeded by Milton H. Epstein, formerly assistant cashier. The bank made a particularly noteworthy success of its trust department, organized in 1913. In 1911 a branch was established at Coronado.

MERCHANTS NATIONAL, SAN DIEGO

The Merchants National Bank of San Diego has made a striking record in building up out of earnings a surplus of five times its capital. This bank was organized in 1893 and has maintained a steady prosperity through the years without displaying any phenomenal growth of business, but has been able to add rapidly to its surplus. The capital has remained at $100,000 for many years, but in 1910 the surplus was $275,000 and in 1916 it was $500,000, with an undivided profits account of $120,000. At that time its deposits were a little over $2,000,000. For a number of years the administration of the bank has been in the hands of President Ralph Granger, Vice President A. H. Frost, Cashier W. R. Rogers, and Assistant Cashier H. E. Anthony.

BANK OF HUNTINGTON PARK

This was the pioneer institution of the young city of Huntington Park and was organized late in 1905, under the presidency of F. M. Douglass of Los Angeles, and with A. E. Walters cashier. Soon after T. E. Newlin of Los Angeles became president. In 1911 Mr. Newlin retired from the bank and F. M. Douglass resumed the presidency. In 1914 A. E. Walters sold his interest to H. G. Candee, organizer and former cashier of the Cuyamaca State Bank, who became president, his son, Wm. H. Candee, assuming the cashiership. The management of this progressive little bank contemplates nationalization.

BANKS OF REDLANDS

Redlands contributes an important chapter to the history of banking development in Southern California. This flourishing modern city in San Bernardino County is the most important single shipping point for citrus fruits in the United States, sending out about 5000 carloads per year. Redlands was born amid the early commercial development of orange growing and early in the great colonization period that awoke that part of the state in the decade of the eighties. In 1887 the district where the city is located had been found particularly favorable for orange growing, and a strong colonization movement was under way. Within the area of the present city there were two initial settlements, called Redlands and Lugonia, neither being an incorporated town.

To these booming pioneer settlements there came at the same time two banks, of which the four present-day banks of Redlands are the lineal descendants, the continuity of development being unbroken for thirty years. At that time there were hardly more than twenty banks of all kinds in Southern California outside of Los Angeles. On March 5, 1887, the Bank of East San Bernardino Valley was incorporated, and on March 10 the Union Bank of Redlands. A few months later the townsite of Redlands was platted, and in 1888 the two rival communities combined in incorporating the town of Redlands, which thus began its career with two small but vigorous banking institutions.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

The Bank of East San Bernardino Valley was established with a capital of $20,000. Its president and largest stockholder was F. P. Morrison, one of the first officials of the new city. The first cashier was John W. Wilson, who became a National bank examiner in 1901, and some years later bank examiner for the Los Angeles Clearing House Association. A. L. Park was also active in the organization.

The new town grew apace, and in June, 1888, when the bank was but a little over a year old, it became the First National Bank of Redlands, with a capital of $50,000 and with the same organization. The Santa Fe Railroad had then just entered the town and modern business buildings were rapidly being constructed, with the result that the bank had three locations in a little over a year. The bank grew steadily along with the city and district, and in 1891 the Savings Bank of Redlands was established with the same organization as the National bank. Since then these two institutions have flourished together and played a vital part in the development of their region. The capital of the First National was largely increased in succeeding years, and in 1914 was $150,000, with a surplus of $100,000. In that year the bank occupied a costly modern building of classic design. In 1915 President F. P. Morrison retired from his office on account of ill health, becoming a vice president. During part of the bank's later career S. C. Haver was active in its management as a director and vice president.

With the history of the First National has now been merged that of the Citizens National Bank of Redlands, the two banks being consolidated in 1916. The Citizens National was established in 1906 and pursued a very successful career for a decade under the presidency of A. G. Hubbard and the active direction of C. S. McWhorter, a banker of much ability who was the leading organizer of the institution. He was its first cashier and later vice president and manager, a position he held until his death in 1916. For a number of years S. R. Hemingway was cashier, succeeding C. S. McWhorter. He was followed in 1914 by T. Leo Peel, who was connected with the bank for several years. He was called to England soon after taking office and was succeeded by F. W. Sinclair. In 1911 the bank's capital was increased from $100,000 to $200,000 and the surplus to $100,000. The consolidation of the Citizens National and the First National was effected early in 1916, under the name of the latter bank. The capital and surplus then became $350,000. At that time the affiliated Savings Bank of Redlands had resources of about $875,000. The combined deposits of the two banks in December, 1916, were over $2,000,000, and the combined resources $2,700,000.

Edward M. Cope, former vice president of the First National, became president of the enlarged institution, with F. P. Morrison and M. J. Sweeney of the respective older banks as vice presidents and F. W. Sinclair cashier. S. R. Hemingway of the First National and Austin T. Park and Waldo O'Kelly of the Citizens National completed the official force as assistant cashiers. The stockholders and directors of both the old First National and the Citizens National included many of the leading men in the business, industrial, and

professional life of the city and district, and the enlarged First National began a new career under bright auspices.

REDLANDS NATIONAL BANK.

The Union Bank of Redlands, incorporated March 10, 1887, remained a State institution until 1904, when it was converted into the Redlands National. Curtis Wells was the first president and largest stockholder and R. B. Lane the first cashier. The latter was succeeded by K. C. Wells, who later became president, with C. C. Ames cashier. When the Union Bank was converted in 1904 the Union Savings Bank was established with the same officers, K. C. Wells being president and B. W. Cave cashier. Since then the two affiliated institutions have grown steadily, and in 1916 the combined resources were over $2,450,000. Several years ago H. H. Ford, who has been with the bank for over twenty years, became president. The Redlands National has a capital and surplus of $150,000 each, and the Union Savings Bank has a capital of $50,000 and a surplus of $35,000.

BANKING IN A LUMBER TOWN

Started as a Lumber Camp on the Mendocino County coast in 1885, the City of Fort Bragg was incorporated in 1889, and did its banking at Mendocino City, twelve miles south. H. A. Weller, a merchant of Fort Bragg, realizing the need of a bank, interested several San Francisco business men in the project, and in 1891 the Bank of Fort Bragg was incorporated. It opened for business December 1, 1891, with an authorized capital of $100,000. The officers were: Calvin Stewart, president; T. L. Johnson, vice president, and H. A. Weller, cashier. In 1900 the interests of several of the nonresident stockholders were purchased by local business men, and the bank was reorganized with Calvin Stewart president, W. P. Plummer vice president, H. A. Weller cashier, and John E. Weller assistant cashier.

There was little demand for local loans in the first few years of the bank's existence, its chief business and source of profit being the discounting of thirty, sixty, and ninety day drafts and acceptances issued by the different redwood lumber companies of this section in payment of labor and supplies. The bank succeeded in inducing the lumber companies to carry balances with it and pay their labor by check. The growth of deposits was slow, as such lumber towns were then looked upon as temporary, and the workingmen and others were inclined to deposit their surplus with larger banks at San Francisco, but a campaign of education gradually won. With the advent of other industries, factories, and much more agricultural development, thus insuring the permanency of the town, and with the enlargement of the plant of the Union Lumber Company, business received an added impetus and deposits began to grow rapidly.

In 1909 it was decided to apply for a National charter, and on January 10, 1910, the First National Bank of Fort Bragg began business, with a capital of $50,000, a surplus of $8000, and deposits of $200,000. At the end of 1916 the resources were $610,000. The present officers are John E. Weller, president; Leonard Barnard, vice president, and C. R. Weller, cashier.

The affiliated First Bank of Savings of Fort Bragg began business in January, 1910, with a capital of $25,000. Its resources are now over $200,000.

The development of the region in agriculture, as well as lumbering, brought the organization of the Fort Bragg Commercial Bank in 1912. In the following year a handsome bank home was erected. The bank has prospered, and in 1916 the resources were over $300,000. C. W. Matthews is president, A. A. Lord vice president, and H. P. Preston cashier.

BANKS OF GLENDALE

The First National Bank of Glendale was organized in 1905 by L. C. Brand and others, and opened for business November 14 of that year with a capital of $25,000, with L. C. Brand as president, Dan Campbell vice president, and E. V. Williams cashier. The first directors were L. C. Brand, Dan Campbell, Herman W. Hellman, W. H. Holliday, and D. Griswold. Upon the death of Mr. Hellman, E. V. Williams was elected a director to fill the vacancy. On April 4, 1908, E. V. Williams having resigned, Dan Campbell was elected cashier and secretary, E. S. Keating assistant cashier, and John A. Logan on September 15 was elected a director in the place of E. V. Williams, resigned. On January 12, 1909, E. S. Keating was elected cashier and secretary, and Dan Campbell vice president.

On September 25, 1909, Mr. Brand and Mr. Campbell having disposed of their inter-

est in the bank, W. W. Lee was elected president and M. P. Harrison vice president, with Ed M. Lee cashier and secretary. These men, together with E. U. Emery, credit man for Newmark Bros., Los Angeles, and W. H. Holliday, president of the Merchants National Bank, Los Angeles, constituted the board of directors in 1916. The affiliated Glendale Savings Bank was organized in 1913. The combined resources of the two banks are about $750,000.

The Bank of Glendale also began its career in 1905, with James C. Kays as president and J. C. Sherer as cashier. In 1916 the organization included F. H. Vesper, president; C. M. Walton and D. H. Smith, vice presidents, and Herman Nelson, cashier. The bank has commercial and savings deposits, and a branch in the town.

REDWOOD CITY BANKS

After several unsuccessful attempts had been made to organize a bank in Redwood City L. P. Behrens, a merchant of Colusa County, sold his holdings there and moved to Redwood City. He associated with himself a number of other citizens and at a meeting on July 8, 1891, the organization of the Bank of San Mateo County was perfected. Its first board of directors were: J. L. Ross, P. P. Chamberlain, L. P. Behrens, Charles Josselyn, George H. Rice, John A. Hooper, Charles Hansen, L. J. Frank, and James Byrnes. The bank opened for business September 1, 1891, with J. L. Ross as president and L. P. Behrens cashier. In 1904 the Bank of San Mateo County became the First National Bank of Redwood City.

The affiliated San Mateo County Savings Bank was incorporated in 1904, the stock being subscribed by stockholders of the First National Bank. Mr. Behrens is president of the savings bank and cashier of the First National. He has been prominent in the work of the California Bankers' Association, of which he has been president. The capital of the First National is $200,000, with a large surplus. The resources of both banks are nearly $1,000,000.

STATE BANK OF POMONA

Within a decade the comparatively young State Bank of Pomona has grown to an institution with a capital of $100,000 and resources of $700,000. It was established in 1906 by interests which have remained in control. The first president was P. R. Ruth. A year or two later A. C. Abbott, the present head of the bank and one of the founders, became president. For some years J. A. Gallup has been vice president, and since the organization E. R. Yundt has been the cashier. The original capital of $25,000 has been quadrupled through successive increases as the volume of business grew. In 1910 a new building was erected, and in the same year there was established a branch at Lordsburg which was maintained until 1915. The bank confined itself to commercial business until 1915, when a savings department was established.

AMERICAN NATIONAL OF POMONA

The American National of Pomona celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary in January, 1917, having been organized in December, 1891, beginning business the following month. The bank was founded by John T. Brady and G. A. Lathrop, who were, respectively, president and cashier for years. Mr. Brady was a Kansas banker who came to Pomona thirty years ago and soon after joined Mr. Lathrop in founding the National Bank of Pomona, which at a later time became the present American National. He retired from active banking several years before his death in 1914, and he was succeeded as president by Mr. Lathrop, who resigned in 1909. In 1912 came a partial reorganization of the bank, consequent on the control passing to A. J. Waters, president of the Citizens National Bank of Los Angeles, and some other Southern California bankers, including A. M. Chaffey, president of the First National Bank of Ontario. Since 1909 F. E. Graham, formerly cashier, has been president and J. P. Storrs cashier. The bank has a capital of $100,000, with a strong surplus, and its resources have in recent years ranged above $800,000.

FIRST NATIONAL OF POMONA

Pomona's oldest existing bank is the First National. It was founded in 1886 under the leadership of Stoddard Jess, now president of the First National of Los Angeles, whose distinguished later banking career is familiar. This beginning occurred in the early days of this now famous center of one of the rich districts of Southern California, and Mr. Jess was one of the leading organizers of the town's early activities. For a decade or more C. Seaver was president and Stoddard Jess cashier. In 1899 John Law became president, but in 1904 removed to Hollywood, and Charles E. Walker assumed the presidency, Mr. Law becoming vice president. In 1904 the cashiership was assumed by Chas. M. Stone, who began his banking career in Burlington, Vt., in 1887 and who became assistant cashier of the People's Bank of Pomona in 1890 and cashier of that institution in 1899. Later he was cashier of the National Bank of Pomona. After serving as cashier of the First National for ten years he became vice president, and William A. Kennedy, the incumbent, cashier. In 1916 Mr. Walker retired from the bank and Chas. M. Stone assumed the presidency, G. H. Williams entering the bank as vice president.

The bank has had a splendid growth during the thirty years of its existence. Its initial capital of $50,000 has been twice increased and is now $150,000 and a surplus equal in amount has been built up. The resources have risen to over $1,800,000.

AFFILIATED INGLEWOOD BANKS

The first bank in Inglewood opened for business October 14, 1905, under the name of the First State Bank of Inglewood, with C. H. Brown president and W. G. Brown cashier. The capital was $25,000. On April 4, 1908, the First State Bank of Inglewood was succeeded by the First National Bank, and the real estate loans were assigned to a local realty corporation, the Aetna Investment Company. The officers of the Aetna Investment Company were the same as those of the bank. In June, 1911, the First National moved to its beautiful new building, 101 South Commercial Street. Business in Inglewood improved so rapidly that in June, 1912, the bank's capital was increased to $50,000. C. H. Brown remains president and W. G. Brown cashier. W. H. Kelso is vice president.

In November, 1910, the Citizens Savings Bank of Inglewood was organized, with W. G. Brown president and F. A. Zillgitt cashier. This bank purchased from the First National Bank of Inglewood its old banking house and fixtures, where the Citizens Savings Bank opened for business in June, 1911. It has a capital of $25,000 and surplus of $2000.

SAVINGS UNION BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

The Savings Union Bank and Trust Company of San Francisco merges in itself the history, strength, and prestige accumulated through more than half a century by the first savings bank in the state and one of its oldest competitors. As related in one of the historical chapters of this book, the Savings and Loan Society was incorporated in 1857, several years prior to the first savings bank law of 1862, and the San Francisco Savings Union was the first bank incorporated under that law, on June 7 of the latter year. For nearly fifty years thereafter these two banks maintained a high reputation as among the city's most stable and conservative financial institutions, and the consolidation which occurred in 1910 was an appropriate merger.

The San Francisco Savings Union experienced exceptionally few changes in its official organization during most of its long career. The first president, James de Fremery, served twenty-one years and, in 1883, was succeeded by Albert Miller, who served until 1898, when E. B. Pond assumed the office. The career of the bank was especially distinguished by the service of Lovell White, one of the eminent bankers of the city, who became the dean of the profession in San Francisco in his later years. After a few years' service with the Bank of California in its early days, he became cashier and secretary of the Savings Union in 1870, and remained in that position until the retirement of President Pond in 1909, when he assumed the presidency, relinquishing it through death in the following year. He was succeeded in the presidency by John S. Drum, the incumbent, and at the same time the cashiership was assumed by Assistant Cashier R. M. Welch, who joined the bank's staff in 1883. A year or two later he was made a vice president and R. B. Burmeister became cashier. Mr. Welch's career has been also distinguished by the fact that he was secretary of the California Bankers' Association for the eighteen years following the second year of its history, the year 1893. George D. Greenwood and C. O. G. Miller are also vice presidents.

The San Francisco Savings Union grew steadily to greatness throughout its career. Its deposits of approximately $3,000,000 in 1870 became $10,500,000 in 1880, $20,000,000 in 1890, and $26,000,000 in 1900. The great fire of 1906 naturally reduced the figures, but the bank soon resumed its advance. A new era opened for the bank in 1910. The consolidation with it of the Savings and Loan Society was effected, and soon after the name was changed to the Savings Union Bank, and a commercial department added. A little later a trust department was established, and the name was again changed to the Savings Union Bank and Trust Company. In 1911 the bank occupied its present costly and palatial home, of classic architectural design, at the junction of Grant Avenue and O'Farrell and Market streets. In 1916 the bank's capital, surplus, and undivided profits amounted to over $3,000,000, and the resources to $41,250,000.

SECURITY SAVINGS BANK

The Security Savings Bank of San Francisco will soon complete its first half century, having been established early in 1871. The career of the bank has been one of quite even tenor, with a marked continuity of management and control and the steady maintenance of a strength of condition and volume of deposits gradually built up during earlier years. The original capital of $150,000 became $300,000 in the early '90s, and not long afterward $500,000. For many years resources have exceeded $5,000,000.

The organization has been a strong one from the beginning. In earlier years the directorate included such familiar names as D. O. Mills, Wm. Alvord, Wm. F. Babcock, and Adam Grant. For many years the directors have included men similarly eminent in the modern period. In the bank's first decade Jerome Lincoln was president and Winfield S. Jones secretary. Over thirty years ago Mr. Jones was made president and S. L. Abbott secretary and cashier. For about thirty years Mr. Abbott has been the bank's active executive officer, becoming vice president and manager after a few years' service as secretary and cashier, Fred W. Ray succeeding to the latter office, now filled by Edward D. Oakley. A few years ago the office of president was assumed by Wm. Babcock. The bank occupies a costly modern home which is one of the architectural adornments of Montgomery Street.

PORTUGUESE-AMERICAN BANK

The Portuguese-American Bank of San Francisco, incorporated in November, 1905, is the only bank on the Pacific Coast established with special reference to the service of Portuguese-Americans. A large colony exists in San Francisco and the bay region, many of the members being stockholders. The bank was founded by M. T. Freitas and associates, Mr. Freitas being the first president and V. L. de Figueiredo cashier. The latter has filled the office ever since. The bank grew rapidly and has established a branch in Oakland. In 1913 Vice President J. A. Silveira succeeded to the presidency and J. L. Silveira, who is associated with several interior banks, became a vice president. For several years John Enas has also been a vice president. The home of the bank is in the wholesale provision district. Both commercial and savings departments are operated. The paid-up capital is $325,000, the deposits over $2,000,000, and the resources $2,450,000.

"COAST BANKER"

An organ was provided the banking and financial interests of the Pacific Coast with the establishment by George P. Edwards of Coast Banker, the first number of which appeared in October, 1908. It later absorbed the *California Banker*. It has continued in the favor of the Coast and the country, enjoying a growing business and a fine clientele. Besides furnishing a copious news record of changes and developments in the banking field and discussions of current issues and of banking practice, its most valuable service has consisted in providing a means and an influence making for the closer co-operation of bankers by drawing them together with common aims and a common spirit through better acquaintance and the constant interchange of ideas. One of its appreciated services throughout its career has been the prompt publication, in regular or special editions, of the proceedings of the numerous bankers' conventions of the several states of its home field. It is a monthly publication of about 100 pages, profusely illustrated and maintaining the closest touch with the banking situation. Representative bankers of the United States generally have frequently commended it as one of the best banking journals published. It is owned by the Coast Banker Publishing Company, of which George P. Edwards, the founder and editor, is president. For a number of years J. O. Denny was associated with the editorial work of the paper.

INITIAL RECORD OF STATE BANKS

BANKS INCORPORATED UNDER STATE LAWS REPORTING JULY 1, 1879

Location	SAVINGS BANKS	Incorporated	Capital Paid In	Surplus, Profit, Loss	Deposits	Resources
San Francisco	Cal. Savings and Loan Society	1873	$ 66,780	$ 4,755	$ 225,570	$ 307,216
"	Franco-American Savings Bank	1877	100,000	3,000	106,752	211,139
"	French Sav. and Loan Soc. (new)	1879	48,110	.....	437,665	486,809
"	German Sav. and Loan Society	1868	243,500	80,000	9,331,715	9,672,602
"	Hibernia Savings and Loan Society	1859	*.....	1,264,519	14,143,469	15,407,988
"	Humboldt Sav. and Loan Society	1869	80,000	29,530	1,199,870	1,313,520
"	San Francisco Savings Union	1862	400,000	52,916	9,898,712	10,370,377
"	Savings and Loan Society	1857	500,000	391,665	5,270,896	6,173,273
"	Security Savings Bank	1871	150,000	.....	2,451,846	2,626,429
Sacramento	Capital Savings Bank	1869	300,000	11,671	1,805,425	2,120,542
"	Sacramento Savings Bank	1867	*.....	60,026	1,248,152	1,455,680
San Jose	Commercial and Savings Bank	1874	300,000	96,623	697,910	1,094,534
"	San Jose Savings Bank	1868	300,000	40,100	566,440	918,901
Los Angeles	Los Angeles County Bank	1874	286,600	44,667	131,591	466,205
Marysville	Marysville Savings Bank	1869	*.....	24,187	890,389	954,968
Mendocino City	Bank of Mendocino	1870	*.....	9,036	227,246	237,146
Merced	Merced Security Savings Bank	1875	30,000	10,378	202,854	243,231
Napa	Napa Valley Sav. and Loan Society	1871	*.....	47,653	421,153	488,806
Oakland	Oakland Bank of Savings	1867	475,000	17,000	1,389,334	1,455,680
"	Union Savings Bank	1869	450,000	42,240	1,243,815	1,760,262
Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz Bank of Sav. and Loan	1870	10,154	1,010	191,442	202,606
Stockton	Stockton Savings and Loan Society	1867	500,000	29,977	1,106,685	1,665,864
Vallejo	Vallejo Sav. and Commercial Bank	1870	86,000	.....	37,686	124,856
	Totals		$ 4,326,144	$2,260,955	$53,226,618	$60,168,711

*Organized on the mutual plan.

COMMERCIAL BANKS

Anaheim	Bank of Anaheim	1876	$ 20,000	$ 1,500	$ 16,139	$ 48,528
Bakersfield	Bank of Kern Valley	1874	48,654	2,168	28,732	118,435
Bodie	Bank of Bodie	1878	21,000	3,600	70,249	101,634
"	Mono County Bank	1877	17,400	7,478	52,075	76,953
Chico	Bank of Butte County	1873	250,000	16,638	142,351	514,275
"	Bank of Chico	1872	356,300	10,606	150,058	580,128
Colusa	Colusa County Bank	1870	500,000	.....	181,575	733,913
Dixon	Bank of Dixon	1873	156,170	10,920	99,364	274,985
Eureka	Humboldt County Bank	1873	60,000	123,634	68,713	252,898
Fresno	Bank of Fresno	1876	47,600	1,807	16,773	68,311
Gilroy	Bank of Gilroy	1871	68,000	.....	82,836	151,020
Healdsburg	Bank of Healdsburg	1874	100,000	6,838	41,104	167,364
"	Farmers and Mechanics Bank	1877	74,320	4,903	69,484	149,717
Hollister	Bank of Hollister	1873	181,600	4,966	128,729	315,295
Lakeport	Bank of Lake	1874	98,680	.....	35,874	146,766
"	Farmers Savings Bank	1874	58,360	12,537	79,807	150,704
La Porte	Bank of La Porte	1871	12,500	10,193	18,851	48,653
Los Angeles	Commercial Bank of	1875	177,000	19,458	233,009	434,065
"	Farmers and Merchants Bank	1879	475,000	50,000	345,980	902,756
Martinez	Bank of Martinez	1873	100,000	26,680	151,608	288,796
Mendocino	Mendocino Discount Bank	1871	23,200	158	2,485	33,183
Merced	Bank of Merced	1875	48,525	2,353	18,917	82,450
Modesto	Modesto Bank	1878	150,000	13,284	112,788	283,708
Napa City	Bank of Napa	1871	198,800	76,709	218,890	536,961
Nevada City	Citizens Bank	1876	30,000	18,826	54,660	104,106
Petaluma	Bank of Sonoma County	1866	300,000	9,963	144,603	457,252
"	Petaluma Savings Bank	1870	100,000	26,077	135,557	261,658
Red Bluff	Bank of Tehama County	1874	160,000	25,379	137,602	343,666
Sacramento	Sacramento Bank	1875	50,000	69,610	1,271,154	1,445,257
Salinas City	Salinas City Bank	1873	200,000	20,704	62,905	309,743
San Buenaventura	Bank of Ventura	1874	90,000	6,831	31,432	140,817
San Diego	Bank of San Diego	1870	50,400	1,000	53,060	104,459
"	Commercial Bank of	1872	75,000	5,000	146,047	248,665
San Jose	Bank of San Jose	1868	250,000	100,000	572,259	938,222

Location	COMMERCIAL BANKS	Incorporated	Capital Paid In	Surplus, Profit, Loss	Deposits	Resources
San Luis Obispo	Bank of San Luis Obispo	1873	$ 185,000	.....	$ 69,300	$ 329,057
Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara County Bank	1875	70,000	$ 2,616	122,540	195,990
Santa Clara	Bank of Santa Clara County	1875	105,000	14,557	130,115	250,251
Santa Cruz	Bank of Santa Cruz County	1875	79,600	1,372	51,069	145,029
Santa Rosa	Santa Rosa Bank	1870	300,000	42,196	160,123	543,175
"	Savings Bank of Santa Rosa	1873	134,160	3,342	102,289	240,701
Sonoma	Sonoma Valley Bank	1875	53,100	4,654	24,106	81,860
Stockton	Bank of Stockton	1868	305,893	35,272	14,521	363,572
"	San Joaquin Valley Bank	1868	139,650	7,662	127,072	274,420
Suisun	Bank of Suisun	1876	100,000	21,507	144,554	273,967
Tomales	Bank of Tomales	1875	60,000	21,191	58,507	143,698
Ukiah	Bank of Ukiah	1875	206,000	4,216	52,462	292,554
Vallejo	Bank of Vallejo	1876	61,000	2,861	20,048	83,909
Visalia	Bank of Visalia	1874	200,000	13,330	80,087	313,441
Watsonville	Bank of Watsonville	1874	140,000	2,895	88,104	276,416
Wheatland	Farmers Bank of	1874	33,500	.....	18,542	73,471
Woodland	Bank of Woodland	1868	450,000	13,500	205,028	699,185
San Francisco	Bank of California	1864	5,000,000	237,156	5,431,797	10,719,360
"	Grangers Bank of California	1874	400,020	.....	92,181	554,242
"	Nevada Bank of	1875	10,000,000	3,500,000	6,017,584	20,898,032
"	‡Pacific Bank	1863	1,000,000	472,188	770,193	2,277,032
"	Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Bank	1866	500,000	1,444,304	980,680	2,977,191
	FOREIGN BANKS					
"	Anglo-Californian Bank, Ltd	1873	*2,532,848	.....	†1,535,250	4,715,318
"	Bank of British Columbia	1862	*1,354,346	.....	† 288,747	1,644,733
"	Bank of British North America	1840	*1,032,160	.....	† 163,613	1,197,773
"	London and San F. Bank, Ltd	1865	*3,818,038	.....	†1,779,222	5,606,975
	Totals		$32,808,824	$6,525,362	$23,503,684	$65,986,708

* Due head office in London.
† Due depositors in San Francisco.
‡ Incorporated as a savings bank.

NOTE.—The classification of incorporated State banks as either savings or commercial was, until the adoption of the new bank act of 1909, determined by their incorporation, either under the savings bank act of 1862 or under the general corporation law, and not by the character of their business. Savings and commercial banking was conducted indiscriminately by a majority of both classes of banks. The Sacramento Bank, a commercial bank, did a savings bank business exclusively. The table is compiled from the reports to the Bank Commissioners as of July 1, 1879, which was the second report made, the first being of December 30, 1878, a few months after the establishment of the commission. In the interim the Farmers Savings Bank of Modesto wound up its business and the French Savings and Loan Society of San Francisco was reorganized, leaving the number of banks the same as at the first report—twenty-three savings and sixty commercial banks. During 1878 five banks had suspended as a result of the first examinations of the Bank Commissioners. In 1879 there were eight National banks with capital of $3,550,000, surplus and profits of $437,000, deposits of $2,870,000, and resources of $8,721,000. The number of private banks was between thirty and forty. The year 1879 was one of depression and of discouragement to banks.

CALIFORNIA BANKS OF 1915

PRESENT-DAY BANKS OF CALIFORNIA

The following list of California banks is substantially the roll as it stood at the end of 1915. The basis of the list of State banks is the report of the Superintendent of Banks as of June 30, 1915, with numerous corrections in accordance with changes occurring in several succeeding months. The National banks are listed according to the latest available data. There are named herewith 258 National banks and 465 State banks, excluding about ninety-five branches, the total number of banks being 723.

Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Alameda	Alameda National Bank	1878	$ 125,000	Jos. R. Knowland	C. E. Tabor
"	Alameda Savings Bank	1890	295,800	Jos. R. Knowland	C. E. Tabor
"	Citizens National Bank	1906	103,500	J. K. Lynch	F. V. Bordwell
"	Citizens Savings Bank	1906	66,000	J. K. Lynch	F. V. Bordwell
Alhambra	Alhambra National Bank	1911	50,000	Marco H. Hellman	H. H. Hammond
"	Alhambra Savings Bank	1906	60,000	E. L. McCormack	William H. Bedell
"	First National Bank	1907	103,500	John B. Knox	C. S. Wilson
Alturas	Alturas State Bank	1913	30,000	J. H. Stewart	A. Hafer
"	First National Bank	1904	105,500	C. A. Estes	B. F. Lynip
Alvarado	Bank of Alameda County	1902	75,000	August May	J. R. Blacow
Anaheim	American Savings Bank	1905	29,135	Frank Shanley	E. J. Hartung
"	Anaheim National Bank	1911	50,500	Chas. Eygabroad	F. C. Krause
"	First National Bank	1902	100,000	John Hartung	E. J. Hartung
"	German-American Bank	1905	56,700	A. Thomas	A. B. McCord
"	Southern County Bank	1912	50,000	C. B. Jones	C. A. Boege
Angels Camp	Calaveras County Bank	1900	106,000	John Raggio	D. Muscio
Antioch	Antioch Bank of Savings	1910	25,000	J. A. West	Herbert A. West
"	Bank of Antioch	1891	123,000	Seth Davison	R. Harkinson
"	First National Bank	1910	25,700	J. A. West	Herbert A. West
Arbuckle	Bank of Arbuckle	1901	63,000	G. C. Meckfessel	J. E. Cain
Arcata	Arcata Savings Bank	1913	25,729	Thos. Bair	F. H. Tooby
"	Bank of Arcata	1886	200,000	Thos. Bair	Frank H. Tooby
"	First National Bank	1913	50,000	Isaac Minor	J. C. Toal
Arroyo Grande	Bank of Arroyo Grande	1903	52,200	M. R. Swall	J. S. Gibson
Artesia	First National Bank	1906	33,000	G. R. Frampton	A. T. Frampton
Auburn	Auburn Savings Bank	1898	52,970	E. T. Robie	G. W. Brundage
"	First National Bank	1908	29,500	E. T. Robie	G. W. Brundage
"	Placer County Bank	1887	135,000	Alden Anderson	Geo. W. Eckhardt
Azusa	Azusa Valley Savings Bank	1891	35,000	W. R. Powell	F. A. Carpenter
"	First National Bank	1906	70,000	W. R. Powell	H. B. Raney
"	United States National Bank	1906	53,500	J. A. Graves	J. H. Anderson
Bakersfield	First Bank of Kern	1901	110,000	G. J. Planz	E. B. Duncan
"	First National Bank	1902	250,000	C. E. Worden	W. E. Benz
"	National Bank of Bakersfield	1913	100,000	C. L. Claflin	J. K. Russell
"	Producers Savings Bank	1892	155,000	C. E. Worden	F. W. Robinson
"	Security Trust Company	1910	455,000	G. J. Planz	O. R. Kamprath
Banning	First National Bank	1904	36,000	J. M. Westerfield	H. T. Bird
Beaumont	Bank of Beaumont	1908	35,000	E. D. Reynolds	E. J. Gillis
Benicia	People's Bank	1904	54,710	W. L. Crooks	A. J. Pine
Berkeley	First National Bank	1892	400,000	A. W. Naylor	F. C. Mortimer
"	Homestead Bank	1909	103,850	W. P. Woolsey	Frank E. Thatcher
"	Berkeley Bk. of S. and Tr. Co.	1892	653,700	A. W. Naylor	W. S. Wood
"	West Berkeley Bank	1903	59,296	Francis Ferrier	H. H. Camper
Biggs	Sacramento Valley Bank	1891	71,250	J. M. Hastings	J. M. Brough
Bishop	Inyo County Bank	1911	103,000	W. W. Watterson	M. Q. Watterson
"	Owens Valley Bank	1910	67,200	Harry Shaw	Tom C. Thornton
Blythe	Palo Verde Valley Bank	1910	25,000	H. C. Downes	Russell Shears

Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Brawley	First National Bank	1910	$ 61,000	W. T. Dunn	F. F. Palmerlee
"	American State Bank	1914	50,000	F. S. Lack	William M. Smith
"	Imperial Valley Savings Bank	1913	52,000	Wm. T. Dunn	M. G. Doud
Brea	La Habra Valley Bank	1912	25,125	C. R. Thomas	L. H. Van Hoorebeke
Brentwood	Bank of Brentwood	1913	25,000	Robert G. Dean	Lee Durham
Burbank	Farmers and Merchants Bank	1913	25,000	W. L. Pollock	F. F. Scribner
"	First National Bank	1908	61,000	H. A. Church	R. O. Church
"	Burbank Savings Bank	1911	26,000	H. A. Church	R. O. Church
Burlingame	Bank of Burlingame	1907	51,200	H. T. Scott	C. S. Crary
Calexico	Calexico National Bank	1910	70,000	F. Kloke	Wm. Guntermann
"	First National Bank	1910	60,000	Sidney McHarg	D. A. Leonard
Calistoga	Calistoga National Bank	1909	33,000	R. J. Tyson	E. L. Armstrong
Cambria	Bank of Cambria	1903	47,500	J. H. Bradhoff	M. Jones
Campbell	Bank of Campbell	1896	52,000	Charles N. Cooper	John F. Duncan
Carpenteria	Commercial and Savings Bank	1911	27,000	J. F. Tubbs	C. O. Anderson
Cedarville	Surprise Valley Bank	1905	42,000	F. E. Bush	Miss K. M. Lester
Centerville	Bank of Centerville	1905	92,000	J. G. Mattos, Jr.	F. T. Dusterberry
Ceres	Bank of Ceres	1911	28,210	L. M. MacDonald	W. P. Clarke
Chico	Butte County National Bank	1873	400,000	W. J. O'Connor	E. Harkness
"	Butte County Savings Bank	1905	112,000	J. R. Robinson	E. T. Williamson
"	People's Sav. and Com. Bank	1914	65,000	J. F. Morehead	H. S. Moir
"	First National Bank	1907	70,000	A. H. Smith	E. J. Cain
Chino	First National Bank of Chino	1903	36,000	L. Vredenburg	Edwin Rhodes
"	Chino Savings Bank	1912	26,000	L. Vredenburg	Edwin Rhodes
Chowchilla	Bank of Chowchilla	1913	25,500	W. D. Cardwell	A. L. Gambrill
Chula Vista	Chula Vista State Bank	1912	25,600	Wm. E. Otis	C. A. Vance
"	People's State Bank	1890	28,500	B. J. Edmonds	Warner Edmonds
Claremont	Claremont National Bank	1912	30,000	J. T. Brooks	Paul Houghton
"	First National Bank	1906	30,000	M. Abernethy	H. T. Belcher
Cloverdale	Bank of Cloverdale	1884	75,000	C. B. Shaw	C. L. Sedgley
Clovis	First National Bank	1912	25,100	Charles Teague	E. S. Nevins
"	First State Bank of Clovis	1904	34,000	R. Norrish	Chas. T. Reyburn
Coachella	First National Bank	1912	27,500	J. M. Westerfield	H. A. Westerfield
Coalinga	First National Bank	1908	170,000	Berton Einstein	Philip M. Harwood
Colfax	Colfax Bank	1907	30,769	D. Falconer	S. G. Watts
Colton	Colton National Bank	1907	55,000	J. B. Coulston	L. C. Newcomer
"	First National Bank	1886	100,000	E. D. Roberts	C. W. Curtis
Colusa	Colusa County Bank	1870	750,000	B. H. Burton	T. Harrington
"	First National Bank	1911	75,000	U. W. Brown	H. F. Osgood
"	First Savings Bank	1902	35,500	U. W. Brown	H. F. Osgood
Compton	Citizens Savings Bank	1906	31,000	J. J. Harshman	E. E. Elliott
"	Farmers and Merchants Bank	1913	26,562	W. Simpson	O. K. Reed
"	First National Bank	1903	80,000	J. J. Harshman	E. E. Elliott
Concord	Bank of Concord	1910	40,700	J. F. Busey	L. L. Herrick
"	First National Bank	1911	27,000	F. W. Foskett	L. A. Stevenson
Corcoran	First National Bank	1906	60,000	J. B. Mayer	R. R. Cunningham
Corning	Bank of Corning	1913	32,784	Wm. Dale	C. D. Hill
"	Tehama County Savings Bank	1912	33,835	J. L. Donovan	C. D. Hill
Corona	Citizens Bank	1890	30,395	T. C. Jameson	L. D. Bedford
"	Corona National Bank	1906	32,000	F. F. Thompson	Chas. Hoss
"	First National Bank	1905	70,000	A. J. Ware	F. E. Snidecor
Covina	Covina National Bank	1906	65,000	J. D. Reed	V. O. English
"	Covina Valley Savings Bank	1901	35,000	A. P. Kerckhoff	M. Leonhardt
"	First National Bank	1901	100,000	W. H. Holliday	M. Leonhardt
Crescent City	Bank of Crescent City	1910	27,500	Frank Togni	E. C. Hegler
"	Del Norte County Bank	1900	55,100	Jacob Marhoffer	Fred Frantz
Crows Landing	First National Bank	1910	30,000	James T. Crow	Geo. W. Fink
Cucamonga	First National Bank	1904	40,000	F. A. Lucas	H. O. Ward
Culver City	Culver City Com. and Sav. Bk.	1914	28,953	H. H. Culver	G. E. McHugh
Davis	Bank of Davis	1913	26,250	G. W. Sanders	F. P. Wray
Delano	First National Bank	1908	50,000	S. Mitchell	H. Hawley
Dinuba	Dinuba Savings Bank	1911	26,500	W. B. Nichols	C. R. Morton
"	First National Bank	1908	60,000	W. B. Nichols	C. R. Morton
"	United States National Bank	1908	30,000	C. C. Threlkeld	Rex P. Harbert
Dixon	Bank of Dixon	1873	280,900	L. P. Hall	R. Moss
"	First National Bank	1910	50,000	H. R. Timm	H. L. Bissell
"	North Solano Savings Bank	1911	25,800	H. R. Timm	H. L. Bissell
Dorris	Butte Valley State Bank	1908	33,000	Fred Melhase	F. C. Stitzer
Dos Palos	Bank of Dos Palos	1911	25,000	R. E. Hoyle	F. V. Edwards
Downey	Bank of Downey	1913	33,000	Xelis Gebhart	H. A. Scott
"	Los Nietos Valley Bank	1891	94,000	Q. J. Rowley	Chas. R. Church

Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Ducor	First National Bank	1912	$ 25,000	H. C. Carr	Arthur L. Harris
Dunsmuir	State Bank of Dunsmuir	1904	29,000	George Engwicht	W. M. Goggin
Durham	Commercial Bank	1912	25,000	T. H. Mitchell	J. A. Williams
El Cajon	Cuyamaca State Bank	1907	28,500	Geo. Sears	H. J. Hall
El Centro	El Centro National Bank	1909	50,000	F. B. Fuller	T. L. Doherty
"	First National Bank	1909	150,000	Leroy Holt	T. T. Cook
"	Security Comm. Savings Bank	1912	25,000	B. R. Brundage	O. G. Horne
Elk Grove	Bank of Elk Grove	1910	26,500	Geo. M. Taverner	Chas. H. Cooper
El Monte	First National Bank	1903	50,000	John H. Bartle	A. F. Snell
El Segundo	El Segundo State Bank	1912	27,500	J. E. Howell	E. O. Lewis
Elsinore	Consolidated Bank	1887	30,000	S. A. Stewart	J. M. Ormsby
Emeryville	First National Bank	1909	30,000	F. J. Stoer	C. L. Barham
"	First Savings Bank	1914	25,000	F. J. Stoer	C. L. Barham
Escalon	Escalon State Bank	1912	25,750	S. J. Irwin	M. Ira Wolfe
Escondido	Escondido National Bank	1887	70,000	A. W. Wohlford	J. J. Rutherford
"	Escondido Savings Bank	1905	40,000	A. W. Wohlford	E. E. Turrentine
"	First National Bank	1905	60,000	W. H. Baldridge	F. D. Hall
"	Home Savings Bank	1909	28,200	W. H. Baldridge	F. G. Baldridge
Esparto	Esparto Bank	1913	27,500	M. O. Wyatt	C. F. George
Eureka	Bank of Eureka	1889	250,000	C. P. Soule	C. Deane
"	First National Bank	1901	360,000	A. E. Connick	H. F. Charters
"	Home Savings Bank	1889	145,000	E. A. Leach	H. W. Leach
"	Humboldt National Bank	1873	280,000	E. A. Leach	H. W. Leach
"	Sav. Bank of Humboldt Co.	1889	164,500	C. P. Soule	C. Deane
Exeter	First National Bank	1902	50,000	A. W. Quinn	L. L. Welch
Fair Oaks	Fair Oaks Bank	1909	25,600	Andrew T. Hodge	C. H. Slocum
Fallbrook	Citizens Commercial Bank	1910	25,850	H. Smelser	W. M. Smelser
Ferndale	Ferndale Bank	1893	100,000	A. Putnam	F. N. Rasmussen
"	Russ-Williams Bank Company	1909	32,500	Frank G. Williams	R. S. Feenaty
Fillmore	Fillmore State Bank	1905	71,700	G. W. Tighe	F. L. Fairbanks
Folsom City	Bank of Folsom	1910	25,400	Isaac Hinkle	H. Clemenson
Fort Bidwell	Bank of Fort Bidwell	1907	33,000	A. C. Lowell	R. R. Baker
Fort Bragg	First Bank of Savings	1910	27,650	Leonard Barnard	J. E. Weller
"	First National Bank	1910	60,000	J. E. Weller	C. R. Weller
"	Fort Bragg Commercial Bank	1912	26,000	C. W. Mathews	H. P. Preston
Fort Jones	Mt. Shasta Banking Company	1910	25,000	A. A. Milliken	Thos. J. Taylor
"	Scott Valley Bank	1902	125,000	M. C. Beem	R. A. Walker
Fortuna	Bank of Fortuna	1905	40,500	E. W. Haight	F. P. Newell
Fowler	First National Bank	1904	50,000	S. C. Kimball	L. J. Harriman
Fresno	Bank and Tr. Co. of Cent. Cal.	1887	290,000	Max Frankenau	L. Gundelfinger
"	Farmers National Bank	1882	500,000	Alfred Kutner	Walter Shoemaker
"	First National Bank	1885	600,000	O. J. Woodward	Roy Pulliam
"	Fresno National Bank	1888	550,000	Dan Brown, Jr.	A. S. Hays
"	People's Savings Bank	1890	250,000	A. V. Lisenby	W. W. Parsons
"	Union National Bank	1907	260,000	W. O. Miles	W. R. Price
Fruitvale	Bank of Fruitvale	1906	55,000	C. L. Tisdale	R. W. Westover
"	Citizens Bank	1906	39,000	F. J. Schultz	L. R. Robertson
Fullerton	Farmers and Merch. Nat. Bank	1904	40,000	E. K. Benchley	C. W. Crandall
"	First National Bank	1895	100,000	J. E. Jones	E. E. Balcom
"	Fullerton Savings Bank	1906	35,000	J. E. Jones	E. E. Balcom
Galt	Bank of Galt	1912	25,350	H. McClaughry	W. L. Robison
Gardena	Citizens State Savings Bank	1912	26,000	C. B. Casler	I. S. Ball
"	First National Bank	1905	.....	C. B. Casler	I. S. Ball
Garden Grove	Bank of Garden Grove	1909	27,200	F. E. Cloyes	F. H. Cloyes
Geyserville	Bank of Geyserville	1903	37,500	C. B. Shaw	H. E. Black
Gilroy	Bank of Gilroy	1871	151,116	H. Hecker	W. R. Pyle
"	First National Bank	1912	82,500	H. S. Hersman	E. R. Green
Glendale	Bank of Glendale	1905	55,000	F. H. Vesper	H. Nelson
"	First National Bank	1905	50,000	W. W. Lee	Ed M. Lee
"	Glendale Savings Bank	1913	50,350	E. M. Lee	C. D. Lusby
Glendora	First National Bank	1907	30,000	W. L. Wiley	C. W. Chamberlain
"	First Savings Bank	1908	28,000	W. L. Wiley	C. W. Chamberlain
"	Glendora Bank	1884	52,000	J. H. Odell	F. E. Odell
Gonzales	Bank of Gonzales	1894	66,000	J. R. Somavia	Geo. H. Bolfinger
Grass Valley	Nevada County Bank	1900	154,500	W. H. Martin	A. H. Mooser
Greenville	Indian Valley Bank	1912	25,053	J. R. Murray	H. C. Chamberlain
Gridley	Gridley State Bank	1906	30,000	C. W. Putnam	J. A. Schafer
Guerneville	Bank of Guerneville	1905	28,500	J. P. Overton	H. L. Bagley
Gustine	Bank of Gustine	1913	100,700	J. Leroy Nickel	C. W. Hacks
Half Moon Bay	Bank of Half Moon Bay	1905	29,130	Joseph M. Francis	M. J. Bettencourt

Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Hanford	Farm. and Merch. Nat. Bank.	1891	180,000	C. M. Cross	Judd Smith
"	First National Bank	1911	200,000	S. C. Lillis	J. O. Hickman
"	Hanford National Bank	1903	120,000	W. V. Buckner	H. E. Wright
"	Hanford Savings Bank	1891	75,000	C. M. Cross	Judd Smith
"	People's Savings Bank	1903	29,010	W. V. Buckner	H. E. Wright
"	The Old Bank	1901	80,000	F. R. Hight	J. J. Hight
Hardwick	First National Bank	1913	28,000	Chas. King	C. E. Bertram
Hayward	Bank of Hayward	1891	55,310	I. B. Parsons	J. E. Farnum
"	Farmers and Merchants Bank.	1905	64,000	J. H. Strobridge	John A. Park
"	First National Bank	1911	120,000	J. H. Strobridge	John A. Park
"	Hayward Bank of Savings	1906	61,081	I. B. Parsons	J. E. Farnum
Healdsburg	Farmers and Mech. Sav. Bank.	1912	55,000	C. W. Weaver	J. H. Miller
"	First National Bank	1877	160,000	C. W. Weaver	J. H. Miller
"	Healdsburg National Bank	1903	80,000	G. H. Warfield	J. R. Williams
"	Healdsburg Savings Bank	1912	31,250	G. H. Warfield	J. R. Williams
Heber	First National Bank	1914	28,000	F. Beers	B. C. Beers
Hemet	Bank of Hemet	1899	85,000	W. F. Whittier	F. L. Thomas
"	Farmers and Merchants Bank.	1907	32,750	D. W. Amos	C. B. Covell
Hermosa Beach	First Bank of Hermosa Beach.	1913	27,500	J. E. Walker	G. S. Thatcher
Highgrove	Bank of Highgrove	1909	25,800	E. S. Moulton	W. H. Ryon
Highland	First Bank of Highland	1904	43,250	N. L. Levering	J. M. Spaulding
Hollister	Bank of Hollister	1875	425,000	T. S. Hawkins	T. W. Hawkins
"	First National Bank	1891	150,000	Wm. Palmtag	C. H. Wagner
"	Hollister Savings Bank	1892	50,000	Wm. Palmtag	C. H. Wagner
"	Sav. and Ln. Bk. of S. Ben. Co.	1892	100,000	T. S. Hawkins	T. W. Hawkins
Hollywood	Citizens Savings Bank	1906	40,000	E. O. Palmer	G. H. Bessemyer
"	First National Bank	1905	50,000	Jos. W. Norvell	John P. Roberts
"	Hollywood National Bank	1905	45,000	E. O. Palmer	G. H. Bessemyer
"	Hollywood Savings Bank	1904	30,200	Jos. W. Norvell	John P. Roberts
Holtville	First National Bank	1910	100,000	Leroy Holt	R. G. Webster
"	Holtville Bank	1910	29,000	O. N. Shaw	R. W. Hoover
Hopland	Bank of Hopland	1912	26,000	C. B. Shaw	J. W. Harris
Hueneme	Bank of Hueneme	1889	62,500	D. T. Perkins	E. H. Wood
Hughson	Bank of Hughson	1910	26,200	J. W. Holeman	L. G. Titus
Huntington Beach	Sav. Bk. of Huntington Beach.	1905	26,600	W. T. Newland	W. S. Thomson
"	First National Bank	1905	40,000	W. T. Newland	R. E. Graves
Huntington Park	Bank of Huntington Park	1905	26,300	H. C. Candee	W. H. Candee
Hynes	First National Bank of Hynes.	1910	27,000	C. S. Thompson	H. G. Flint
Imperial	Farmers and Merchants Bank.	1907	26,200	L. J. Thomas	Otto Storm
"	First National Bank	1901	100,000	Leroy Holt	O. K. Thomas
Inglewood	Citizens Savings Bank	1910	26,700	W. G. Brown	F. A. Zillgitt
"	First National Bank	1906	70,000	C. H. Brown	W. G. Brown
Jackson	Bank of Amador County	1896	125,000	J. Chichizola	C. L. Culbert
Jamestown	First Bank of Jamestown	1912	25,000	W. E. Booker	Paul E. Mertz
"	Jamestown National Bank	1913	27,000	W. E. Booker	Paul E. Mertz
Kerman	First National Bank	1909	35,000	Wm. G. Kerckhoff	J. A. Johnson
Kingsburg	First National Bank	1904	55,000	Levi Garrett	A. T. Lindgren
"	Kingsburg Bank	1911	40,000	Nicholas G. Nelson	O. E. Peterson
La Habra	First Bank of La Habra	1914	25,000	John Leuhm	J. H. Walker
Lakeport	Bank of Lake	1874	70,070	M. S. Sayre	F. A. Greene
"	Farmers Savings Bank	1874	125,000	J. W. Boggs	F. H. Boggs
La Mesa	Bank of La Mesa	1909	28,500	S. C. Grable	L. Sperbeck
Lancaster	Antelope Valley Bank	1915	50,000	John Roberts	I. E. Dodge
Lankershim	Bank of Lankershim	1910	25,500	J. D. Marshall	H. H. Ferguson
Laton	First National Bank	1910	40,000	H. L. Ward	C. A. Smith
Le Grand	Le Grand Bank	1913	25,500	Paul Neumann	P. Carmean
Lemoore	Bank of Lemoore	1891	100,000	S. C. Lillis	N. W. Sorrick
"	First National Bank	1905	63,000	C. H. Bailey	W. E. Dingley
Lincoln	Bank of Lincoln	1902	55,500	A. J. Gladding	B. C. Musser
"	Bank of Western Placer County	1914	25,000	F. C. Crosby	Guy E. Green
Lindsay	First National Bank	1905	90,000	Ernest L. Daniells	G. V. Reed
"	Lindsay National Bank	1910	110,000	Chas. K. Towt	Chester Dowell
"	Lindsay Savings Bank	1910	29,000	E. L. Daniells	G. V. Reed
Livermore	Far. and Merchants Nat. Bank.	1911	50,000	L. M. MacDonald	H. R. Parshall
"	First National Bank	1905	75,000	C. H. Wente	H. S. Goodell
"	Livermore Savings Bank	1905	30,500	L. M. MacDonald	H. R. Parshall
"	Livermore Valley Savings Bank	1905	64,000	C. H. Wente	H. S. Goodell
Livingston	First Bank of Livingston	1913	25,027	H. P. Spencer	G. H. Winton
Lodi	Bank of Lodi	1888	144,000	H. E. Welch	C. M. Ferdun
"	Central Savings Bank	1907	32,000	J. B. Cory	W. H. Lorenz
"	First National Bank	1905	120,000	J. B. Cory	W. H. Lorenz

Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Loleta	Bank of Loleta	1910	$ 26,500	Robert O. Dickson	E. E. Hill
Lompoc	Bank of Lompoc	1890	140,000	James Sloan	W. C. Bissinger
"	Farm. and Merch. Sav. Bank	1905	45,000	James Sloan	W. C. Bissinger
"	Lompoc Valley Bank	1905	66,565	Geo. S. Edwards	R. A. Lazier
"	Lompoc Valley Savings Bank	1905	43,000	Geo. S. Edwards	R. A. Lazier
Long Beach	City National Bank	1907	128,000	B. F. Tucker	Naomi Tompkins
"	Exchange National Bank	1906	160,000	Chas. A. Wiley	W. J. Gardiner
"	Farmers and Merchants Bank	1907	155,500	C. J. Walker	C. E. Huntington
"	First National Bank	1900	280,000	H. S. McKee	R. D. Judkins
"	Long Beach S. Bk. and Tr. Co.	1902	330,000	Geo. H. Bixby	J. W. Tucker
"	Marine Comm. and Sav. Bank	1914	125,000	E. J. Wightman	B. H. Smith
"	National Bank of Long Beach	1896	265,000	P. E. Hatch	E. E. Norton
Loomis	Bank of Loomis	1913	25,400	J. J. Brennam	J. J. Callison
Lordsburg	First National Bank	1909	30,000	E. R. Yundt	L. A. Bickenstaff
Los Angeles	Bank of Italy (branch)	1913	.....	W. W. Douglas, *manager*	
"	Bank of San Pedro	1888	63,500	H. E. Sherer	Henry Baly
"	California Sav. and Com. Bank	1903	650,000	M. P. Snyder	A. L. Crandall
"	Citizens National Bank	1890	2,000,000	A. J. Waters	E. T. Pettigrew
"	Citizens Savings of Hollywood	1906	40,000	Edwin O. Palmer	G. H. Beesemyer
"	Citizens Savings of San Pedro	1903	35,000	Henry Baly	H. E. Sherer
"	Citizens Trust and Sav. Bank	1911	630,000	Orra E. Monnette	H. A. Kehler
"	Commercial National Bank	1903	500,000	W. A. Bonynge	Malcom Crowe
"	Continental National Bank	1914	500,000	R. S. Heaton	W. D. Howard
"	Farmers and Mer. Nat. Bank	1871	3,500,000	I. W. Hellman	Victor H. Rossetti
"	First National Bank	1875	3,750,000	Stoddard Jess	W. T. S. Hammond
"	First National of Hollywood	1903	30,200	J. W. Norvell	John P. Roberts
"	First National of San Pedro	1903	65,000	W. A. Bonynge	E. B. Moores
"	First National of Wilmington	1909	30,000	C. A. Eubank	Don C. Fohl
"	German-American Tr. and Sav.	1890	1,900,000	M. N. Avery	R. P. Hillman
"	Harbor City Savings Bank	1906	36,000	W. A. Bonynge	P. M. Gaffey
"	Hellman Com. Trust and Sav.	1908	1,005,000	Marco H. Hellman	Emanuel Cohen
"	Hibernian Savings Bank	1914	331,350	Geo. Chaffey	Geo. A. J. Howard
"	Highland Park Bank	1910	35,000	H. A. Church	Oren Lientz
"	Hollywood National Bank	1905	50,000	Edwin O. Palmer	G. H. Beesemyer
"	Hollywood Savings Bank	1904	30,200	J. W. Norvell	John P. Roberts
"	Home Savings Bank	1904	1,027,575	O. J. Wigdal	F. L. Thompson
"	Internat. Savings and Ex. Bank	1903	340,000	John Lopizich	James O. Moore
"	Kaspare Cohn Com. Bank	1914	300,000	Kaspare Cohn	Paul C. Turman
"	Los Angeles Tr. and Sav. Bank	1902	2,850,000	J. C. Drake	Jay Spence
"	Merchants National Bank	1886	1,500,000	W. H. Holliday	J. H. Ramboz
"	National Bank of California	1889	700,000	J. E. Fishburn	H. S. McKee
"	Security National Bank	1913	500,000	J. F. Sartori	W. A. Ellis
"	Security Trust and Sav. Bank	1889	2,900,000	J. F. Sartori	W. D. Longyear
"	State Bank of San Pedro	1901	88,840	Edward Mahan	J. W. Hargrave
"	United States National Bank	1905	300,000	I. W. Hellman	F. W. Smith
"	Yokohama Spec. Bk. (branch)	1913	.....	J. Fujihira, *manager*	
Los Banos	Bank of Los Banos	1905	125,000	J. L. Nickel	A. C. Smith
"	First National Bank	1911	40,000	J. V. Toscano	J. L. Toscano
Los Gatos	Bank of Los Gatos	1883	90,000	J. A. Case	S. D. Balch
"	First National Bank	1911	25,000	Zedd S. Riggs	C. F. Hamsher
Loyalton	Sierra Valley Bank	1906	25,600	A. S. Nichols	W. H. Duncan
Madera	Commercial National Bank	1893	90,000	Return Roberts	J. G. Roberts
"	First National Bank	1904	65,000	J. L. Butin	F. E. Osterhout
"	Madera Savings Bank	1912	26,150	R. Roberts	J. G. Roberts
Manteca	First State Bank	1911	25,500	E. J. Norcross	Fred Norcross
Maricopa	Bank of Maricopa	1911	26,000	W. H. Coons	C. Z. Vander Horck
"	First National Bank	1911	37,000	C. E. Worden	W. Y. White
Martinez	Bank of Martinez	1873	207,000	W. S. Tinning	W. A. Hale
"	First National Bank	1907	60,000	E. A. Majors	E. J. Randall
Marysville	Decker, Jewett & Co. Bank	1888	187,500	Elliott McAllister	A. C. Bingham
"	Northern Cal. Bank of Savings	1889	187,000	Phoebe M. Rideout	G. R. Eckart
"	Rideout Bank	1890	508,300	Phoebe M. Rideout	W. B. Swain
Mayfield	Mayfield Bank	1904	25,000	Ed C. Ellet	Chas. Ellet
McCloud	McCloud National Bank	1909	65,000	J. H. Queal	H. J. Unruh
McFarland	First National Bank	1913	28,000	S. Mitchell	D. Billings
Mendocino	Mendocino Bank of Commerce	1905	35,250	Joshua Grindle	J. N. Rea
Merced	Commercial Savings Bank	1909	125,000	L. G. Worden	J. B. Hart
"	Farm. and Mech. Nat. Bank	1913	110,000	Isaac Bird	H. P. Spencer
"	First National Bank	1897	125,000	L. G. Worden	J. B. Hart
"	Merced Security Savings Bank	1875	365,000	C. M. Smith	H. B. Stoddard

Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Mill Valley	Bank of Mill Valley	1907	$ 53,850	F. F. Bostwick	C. H. Huntoon
Milpitas	Bank of Milpitas	1911	31,500	M. Lynn	A. L. Crabb
Modesto	Farmers and Merchants Bank	1903	80,000	W. A. Harter	C. J. Cressey
"	First National Bank	1884	240,000	W. N. Steele	G. R. Stoddard
"	Modesto Bank	1878	310,000	J. R. Broughton	W. T. Scoon
"	Modesto Savings Bank	1905	140,000	J. R. Broughton	W. T. Scoon
"	Sec. Sav. Bk. of Stanislaus Co.	1905	46,500	N. A. Harter	C. J. Cressey
"	Union Savings Bank	1889	127,500	C. D. Swan	G. C. Nelson
Moneta	Moneta Commercial Bank	1910	27,500	C. B. Casler	E. M. Kaufman
Monrovia	American National Bank	1905	60,000	W. L. Hodges	Augustus Adams
"	First National Bank	1887	155,000	J. H. Bartle	W. A. Chess
"	Granite Savings Bank	1903	27,500	W. L. Hodges	A. Adams
"	Monrovia Savings Bank	1888	62,500	J. H. Bartle	K. E. Lawrence
Montague	Montague Banking Company	1906	56,000	E. F. Reichman	Arthur Simon
Montebello	Montebello State Bank	1912	25,560	H. A. Church	J. W. Van Orsdel
Monterey	Bank of Monterey	1891	125,000	T. J. Field	Charles D. Henry
"	First National Bank	1904	60,000	T. A. Work	C. A. Metz
"	Monterey Savings Bank	1891	51,200	T. J. Field	C. D. Henry
Morgan Hill	Bank of Morgan Hill	1905	39,700	J. A. Case	Claude Stark
Mountain View	Farm. and Merch. State Bank	1905	75,000	Geo. Swall	W. L. Camp
"	First National Bank	1913	28,000	C. C. Minton	B. W. Holeman
Napa	Bank of Napa	1871	260,000	S. M. Chapman	Henry Brown
"	First National Bank	1904	100,000	H. P. Goodman	E. L. Bickford
"	Napa Savings Bank	1878	26,000	E. L. Bickford	H. S. Davis
"	Jas. H. Goodman & Co. Bank.	1858	125,000	Clarence M. Smith	E. W. Churchill
National City	National City State Bank	1912	25,500	Ed Willoughby	J. W. Donohue
"	People's National Bank	1909	30,000	Edw. M. Fly	B. J. Edmonds
Needles	Bank of Needles	1907	31,250	Geo. E. Butler	J. H. Butler
"	Monaghan & Murphy Bank	1905	100,000	T. J. Murphy	Dan Murphy
Nevada City	Citizens Bank	1876	163,222	D. E. Morgan	E. J. Morgan
Newcastle	Bank of Newcastle	1907	34,900	W. R. Fountain	J. F. Cook
Newman	Bank of Newman	1903	154,000	E. S. Wangenheim	W. W. Giddings
"	First National Bank	1910	70,000	J. N. Stuhr	W. J. Burris
Newport Beach	First National Bank	1906	28,000	L. H. Wallace	Max R. Wallace
Niles	Niles State Bank	1906	25,000	August May	Charles Evans
Nordhoff	Ojai State Bank	1907	45,500	F. W. Ewing	Edward L. Weist
Norwalk	Bank of Norwalk	1906	35,000	J. W. Inman	D. W. Horst
Novato	Novato Bank	1913	26,000	James B. Burdell	G. D. Morrison
Oakdale	Commercial State Bank	1912	55,000	M. J. Nightingale	W. A. Sayler
"	First National Bank	1904	100,000	Edward Rodden	Wm. L. Rodden
"	Stanislaus County Sav. Bank	1905	60,000	E. Rodden	W. L. Rodden
Oakland	Bank of Commerce	1907	105,220	E. M. Gibson	E. H. M. Lannowe
"	Central National Bank	1909	1,700,000	J. F. Carlston	A. J. Mount
"	First National Bank	1875	638,000	Russell Lowry	S. H. Kitto
"	Security Bank	1903	475,830	H. C. Capwell	Chas. A. Smith
"	Twenty-Third Avenue Bank	1909	30,510	B. F. Edwards	C. F. Montgomery
"	Central Sav. Bank of Oakland	1891	735,000	J. F. Carlston	H. C. Sagehorn
"	Farm. and Merch. Sav. Bank	1892	195,500	Edson F. Adams	Geo. S. Meredith
"	First Trust and Savings Bank.	1908	563,000	P. E. Bowles	O. D. Jacoby
"	Oakland Bank of Savings	1867	2,175,000	W. W. Garthwaite	J. Y. Eccleston
"	State Savings Bank	1893	260,000	R. J. McMullen	S. C. Bennetts
Oak Park	Citizens Bank	1909	25,900	H. C. Muddox	D. K. Colclough
Ocean Park	First National Bank	1905	65,000	E. J. Vawter	R. B. Harris
"	Merch. Comm. and Sav. Bank.	1911	67,000	A. Patterson	R. E. Kuhns
"	Ocean Park Bank	1902	107,300	T. H. Dudley	W. O. Bender
Oceanside	First National Bank	1906	27,000	Jesse Newton	J. L. Mathews
Ontario	Euclid Savings Bank	1890	31,250	H. E. Swan	H. S. Abbott
"	First National Bank	1902	100,000	Geo. Chaffey	G. B. Harding
"	Ontario National Bank	1911	55,000	J. R. Pollock	Geo. A. McCrea
Orange	First National Bank	1906	70,000	W. D. Granger	E. W. Bolinger
"	National Bank of Orange	1886	140,000	D. C. Pixley	J. R. Porter
"	Orange Savings Bank	1906	47,000	P. W. Ehlen	J. R. Porter
"	Security Savings Bank	1906	31,500	W. D. Granger	E. W. Bolinger
Orland	Bank of Orland	1887	62,500	G. A. Barceloux	W. E. Scearce
"	First National Bank	1913	35,000	E. E. Martin	Jno. J. Flaherty
"	Orland Savings Bank	1911	28,809	Geo. A. Barceloux	W. E. Scearce
Orosi	National Bank of Orosi	1910	30,000	H. J. Mackenzie	W. V. Andrews
Oroville	Bank of Oroville	1892	41,000	S. C. Lillis	W. W. Gingles
"	Bank of Rideout, Smith & Co.	1888	40,000	Phoebe Rideout	L. L. Green
"	First National Bank	1903	100,000	S. C. Lillis	W. W. Gingles
"	Rideout, Smith National Bank.	1866	330,000	Phoebe M. Rideout	L. L. Green

Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Owensmouth	State Bank of Owensmouth	1914	$ 40,000	R. E. Whitley	J. S. Waring
Oxnard	Bank of A. Levy, Inc	1905	325,000	A. Levy	Alpha Adams
"	First National Bank	1909	300,000	Charles Donlon	Geo. E. Hume
"	Oxnard Savings Bank	1904	50,000	T. A. Rice	Geo. E. Hume
Pacific Grove	Bank of E. Cooke Smith	1907	61,536	E. C. Smith	C. D. Smith
"	Bank of Pacific Grove	1903	61,500	O. S. Trimmer	F. H. Gonsalves
Palo Alto	Bank of Palo Alto	1892	91,000	G. R. Parkinson	H. F. Congdon
"	First National Bank	1904	70,000	M. A. Buchan	C. E. Jordan
Parlier	First National Bank	1911	30,000	J. F. Hayhurst	W. J. Lohman
Pasadena	Citizens Savings Bank	1912	315,000	W. H. Hubbard	M. Vilas Hubbard
"	Crown City Sav. and Trust Co.	1905	213,000	J. B. Coulston	R. C. Davis
"	First National Bank	1884	300,000	A. E. Edwards	J. S. Macdonnell
"	National Bank of Pasadena	1886	320,000	J. B. Coulston	Edward J. Pyle
"	Pasadena Trust and Sav. Co.	1901	340,000	A. E. Edwards	H. A. Doty
"	Security National Bank	1912	100,000	Ernest H. May	N. E. Macbeth
"	State Bank of Pasadena	1907	33,000	W. M. Eason	Frank W. Hill
"	Union National Bank	1908	150,000	H. I. Stuart	H. L. Mouat
"	Union Trust and Savings Bank	1895	475,000	H. I. Stuart	H. L. Mouat
Paso Robles	Citizens Bank	1892	73,800	W. C. Bennett	A. Pfister
"	First National Bank	1910	31,000	W. T. Summers	F. G. Wetzel
Patterson	Bank of Patterson	1911	38,500	C. A. Sperry	C. J. Carlson
Perris	Bank of Perris	1908	31,250	W. W. Stewart	W. G. Stewart
Petaluma	California Savings Bank	1905	130,000	A. J. Bloom	J. H. Gwinn
"	Petaluma National Bank	1900	232,000	H. Schluckebier	J. H. Gwinn
"	Petaluma Savings Bank	1870	125,000	F. H. Denman	John Lawler, Jr.
"	Petaluma Swiss-Amer. Bank	1910	292,000	Thos. Maclay	R. Righetti
"	Sonoma County National Bank	1866	550,000	Geo. P. McNear	Frank H. Denman
Pinole	Bank of Pinole	1905	85,500	E. M. Downer	L. E. Hart
Pittsburg	Contra Costa County Bank	1903	66,000	W. E. Creed	G. Todaro
Placentia	Placentia National Bank	1911	35,000	A. S. Bradford	E. C. Hazzard
Placerville	A. Mierson Banking Company	1902	100,000	Max Mierson	B. Mierson
Planada	Bank of Planada	1912	25,000	J. C. Cunningham	A. A. Werner
Pleasanton	Amador Valley Savings Bank	1913	25,100	H. P. Mohr	C. Smallwood
"	Bank of Pleasanton	1893	25,000	T. W. Harris	E. L. Benedict
"	First National Bank	1910	25,000	H. P. Mohr	Claude Smallwood
Point Arena	Bank of Point Arena	1905	26,867	J. C. Halliday	P. W. Haggreen
Pomona	American National Bank	1891	200,000	F. E. Graham	J. P. Storrs
"	First National Bank	1886	300,000	Chas. M. Stone	W. A. Kennedy
"	Savings Bank of Pomona	1904	62,500	Wm. Benesh	A. B. Endicott
"	State Bank of Pomona	1906	84,000	A. C. Abbott	E. R. Yundt
Porterville	First National Bank	1903	200,000	Wilko Mentz	F. W. Velie
"	Pioneer Bank	1889	145,000	E. L. Scott	J. F. Wright
Princeton	Bank of Princeton	1912	66,000	T. Harrington	F. M. Porter
Puente	First National Bank	1911	35,000	Marco H. Hellman	Howard R. Link
Quincy	Plumas County Bank	1903	32,294	Clark J. Lee	J. T. Spooner
Ramona	State Bank of Ramona	1911	25,800	G. A. Davidson	R. K. Williams
Red Bluff	Bank of Tehama County	1874	400,000	W. B. Cahoone	Erle Gans
"	Red Bluff National Bank	1911	100,000	T. H. Ramsay	S. W. Murdock
Redding	First Sav. Bank of Shasta Co.	1911	80,000	A. F. Smith	E. L. Bailey
"	Nor. California National Bank	1888	114,000	N. B. Frisbie	E. C. Frisbie
"	Redding National Bank	1911	110,000	Alden Anderson	Edwin L. Bailey
"	Redding Savings Bank	1910	53,240	N. B. Frisbie	E. C. Frisbie
Redlands	Citizens National Bank	1906	300,000	A. G. Hubbard	A. T. Park
"	First National Bank	1888	250,000	F. P. Morrison	F. W. Sinclair
"	Redlands National Bank	1887	300,000	H. H. Ford	B. W. Cave
"	Savings Bank of Redlands	1891	85,000	F. P. Morrison	Silas Williams
"	Union Savings Bank	1904	75,000	H. H. Ford	B. W. Cave
Redondo Beach	Farm. and Merch. Nat. Bank	1902	60,000	J. A. Graves	Ernest C. Heath
"	First National Bank	1906	35,000	M. H. Hellman	Geo. H. Anderson
"	Redondo Savings Bank	1905	30,000	N. Bonfilio	Geo. H. Anderson
Redwood City	First National Bank	1891	300,000	J. L. Ross	L. P. Behrens
"	Redwood City Comm. Bank	1904	70,575	E. F. Fitzpatrick	D. W. Williams
"	San Mateo Co. Savings Bank	1903	75,000	L. P. Behrens	F. K. Towne
"	S. and Ln. Co. of S. Mateo Co.	1904	29,050	E. F. Fitzpatrick	D. W. Williams
Reedley	First National Bank	1907	50,000	J. J. Eymann	D. C. Krehbiel
"	Reedley National Bank	1907	50,000	C. L. Drath	Marion Deneen
Rialto	First National Bank	1907	50,000	E. D. Roberts	E. M. Lash
Richmond	Bank of Richmond	1902	53,100	C. S. Downing	Clarence E. Allen
"	First National Bank	1910	120,000	Clinton E. Worden	C. J. Crary
"	Mechanics Bank	1907	58,800	J. H. Nicholl	W. L. Ballenger
"	Richmond Savings Bank	1911	56,000	Clinton E. Worden	C. J. Crary

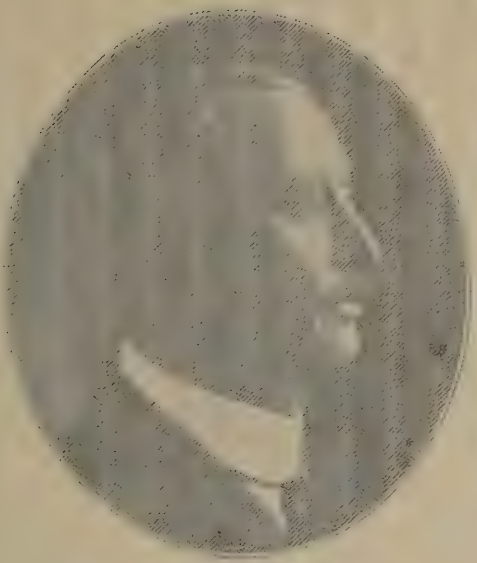
Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Rio Vista	Bank of Rio Vista	1904	$ 120,000	L. P. Larsen	J. W. Hamilton
Ripon	Bank of Ripon	1910	27,000	H. L. Dickey	A. R. Magruder
Rivera	Rivera State Bank	1910	26,750	F. A. Coffman	F. H. Tieskoetter
Riverbank	First National Bank	1913	28,000	R. W. Hobart	C. B. Pressley
Riverdale	First National Bank	1911	27,000	John B. Lewis	H. J. Hoyt
Riverside	Citizens National Bank	1903	250,000	S. H. Herrick	C. E. Brouse
"	First National Bank	1885	350,000	W. A. Purington	Myron Milice
"	National Bank of Riverside	1906	120,000	W. W. Phelps	W. W. Phelps
"	People's Loan and Trust Co	1913	100,953	J. C. Odell	K. D. Harger
"	Riverside Savings Bank	1880	132,000	J. A. Simms	C. E. Waite
"	Security Savings Bank	1907	70,000	S. H. Herrick	W. T. Dinsmore
Roseville	Roseville Banking Company	1903	57,300	J. A. Hill	T. H. Kelsey
Sacramento	California National Bank	1882	1,250,000	W. E. Gerber	Fred W. Kiesel
"	California Savings Bank	1912	130,000	W. E. Gerber	Fred W. Kiesel
"	Capital Banking and Trust Co.	1893	102,000	F. W. Biewener	W. W. Bassett
"	Capital National Bank	1911	240,000	Alden Anderson	W. W. Bassett
"	Farm. and Mech. Sav. Bank	1890	373,536	R. M. Richardson	M. K. Crowell
"	Fort Sutter National Bank	1905	275,000	J. M. Henderson, Jr.	H. W. Conger
"	Nat. Bank of D. O. Mills & Co.	1850	1,000,000	Chas. F. Dillman	Fred H. Pierce
"	Nippon Bank	1907	44,275	S. Yoshida	R. K. Iseri
"	People's Savings Bank	1880	556,000	Wm. Beckman	J. E. Huntoon
"	Sacramento Bank	1875	1,154,298	J. M. Henderson, Jr.	Geo. W. Kramer
"	Sac. Valley Bank and Tr. Co.	1910	620,000	Geo. J. Bryte	Wm. Skeels
Salinas	First National Bank	1897	175,000	J. H. Menke	C. J. Whisman
"	Monterey County Bank	1890	210,000	Luther Rodgers	A. C. Hughes
"	Salinas City Bank	1873	375,000	Harry Winham	E. P. Alexander
"	Salinas Valley Savings Bank	1915	73,000	J. H. Menke	C. J. Whisman
San Anselmo	First Bank of San Anselmo	1909	38,500	J. C. Raas	H. S. Foote
San Bernardino	California State Bank	1901	113,000	John L. Oakey	W. S. Boggs
"	Farmers Exchange Nat. Bank	1907	150,000	A. G. Kendall	S. E. Bagley
"	San Bernardino National Bank	1888	400,000	E. D. Roberts	W. S. Hooper
"	San Bernardino Co. Sav. Bank	1903	210,000	E. D. Roberts	J. H. Wilson
"	Sav. Bank of San Bernardino	1889	57,650	A. G. Kendall	C. E. Vahey
San Diego	American National Bank	1904	350,000	J. W. Sefton, Jr.	L. J. Rice
"	Bank of Comm. and Trust Co.	1907	700,000	J. Wangenheim	M. H. Epstein
"	Citizens Savings Bank	1888	125,000	J. Isaac Irwin	C. B. Whittelsey
"	First National Bank	1883	300,000	D. F. Garrettson	F. J. Belcher, Jr.
"	Marine National Bank	1900	150,000	G. W. Fishburn	O. L. Sellers
"	Merchants National Bank	1893	600,000	Ralph Granger	W. R. Rogers
"	San Diego Savings Bank	1889	400,000	M. T. Gilmore	E. M. Barber
"	Security Comm. and Sav. Bank	1913	111,100	L. A. Blochman	W. S. Dorland
"	Southern Trust and Sav. Bank	1907	425,000	G. A. Davidson	E. O. Hodge
"	Union National Bank	1913	240,000	J. R. Burrow	C. W. Landis
"	Union Trust Company	1913	101,750	J. F. Forward, Sr.	James D. Forward
"	United States National Bank	1912	100,000	F. C. Spaulding	.....
"	University Avenue Bank	1907	61,250	C. T. Chandler	E. G. Otis
San Dimas	First National Bank	1911	75,000	W. A. Johnstone	John C. Walker
"	San Dimas Savings Bank	1911	26,250	W. A. Johnstone	John C. Walker
San Fernando	First National Bank	1911	31,000	J. E. Wheat	Fred W. Prince
"	San Fernando National Bank	1912	31,000	L. C. Brand	F. P. Grant
San Francisco	American National Bank	1902	1,440,000	George N. O'Brien	I. H. Sanborn
"	Anglo & London Paris Nat.	1906	5,966,137	Herb. Fleishhacker	Challen N. Parker
"	Anglo-California Trust Co.	1909	1,830,000	M. Fleishhacker	F. F. Ouer
"	Bank of Brit. N. Amer. (agcy.)	1840	300,000	A. G. Fry and A. S. Ireland, *agents*	
"	Bank of California N. A.	1864	16,772,630	Frank B. Anderson	I. F. Moulton
"	Bank of Italy	1904	1,403,100	L. Scatena	A. Pedrini
"	Canadian Bank of Com. (agcy.)	1867	1,000,000	Bruce Heathcote, *manager*	
"	Canton Bank	1907	125,850	Look Tin Eli	E. V. Spiganovicz
"	Columbus Sav. and Loan Soc.	1893	240,000	I. W. Hellman, Jr.	W. H. Hartwell
"	Crocker National Bank	1886	4,000,000	Wm. H. Crocker	W. Gregg, Jr.
"	Donohoe-Kelly Banking Co.	1891	850,000	Jos. A. Donohoe	John E. Fitzpatrick
"	French-American Bk. of Sav.	1860	944,000	A. Legallet	M. Girard
"	First Federal Trust Company.	1907	1,595,000	Rudolph Spreckels	James K. Moffitt
"	Fugazi Italian Bank	1906	526,860	J. F. Fugazi	F. N. Belgrano
"	First National Bank	1870	4,865,372	Rudolph Spreckels	J. K. Moffitt
"	German Savings and Loan Soc.	1868	2,892,585	N. Ohlandt	A. H. Muller
"	Hibernia Sav. and Loan Society	1864	3,245,500	Charles Mayo	R. M. Tobin
"	Hongk'g and Shan'i Bkg. Corp.	1867	.....	Thomas S. Baker, *agent*	
"	Humboldt Savings Bank	1869	1,000,000	Alex D. Keyes	H. C. Klevesahl
"	Internat. Bkg. Corp. (branch).	1901	515,000	E. W. Wilson, *manager*	

Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
San Francisco	Italian-American Bank	1899	$ 940,000	Andrea Sbarboro	A. E. Sbarboro
"	Marine Bank	1890	156,250	G. M. Perine	J. L. Sharp
"	Mercantile National Bank	1910	3,071,337	John D. McKee	O. Ellinghouse
"	Mercantile Trust Company	1899	1,075,000	Henry T. Scott	O. Ellinghouse
"	Merchants National Bank	1906	1,750,000	W. T. Summers	W. W. Jones
"	The Mission Bank	1903	250,000	James Rolph, Jr.	Stuart F. Smith
"	Mission Savings Bank	1906	206,500	James Rolph, Jr.	DeWitt C. Treat
"	Mutual Savings Bank	1899	925,000	James D. Phelan	C. B. Hobson
"	Portuguese-American Bank	1905	367,500	J. A. Silviera	V. L. DeFigueiredo
"	Savings Union Bk. and Tr. Co.	1862	22,487,850	John S. Drum	R. B. Burmeister
"	Seaboard National Bank	1905	705,125	Robert J. Tyson	H. A. Estabrook
"	Security Savings Bank	1871	635,000	Wm. Babcock	E. D. Oakley
"	Union Trust Company	1893	2,850,000	I. W. Hellman	H. Van Luven
"	Wells Fargo Nevada Nat. Bank	1866	11,121,883	I. W. Hellman	Frank B. King
"	Yokohama Spec. Bk. (branch)	1880	406,250	Junzo Fujihira, *manager*	
San Gabriel	Bank of San Gabriel	1914	25,000	W. R. Fee	E. J. Aye
Sanger	Commercial Bank	1912	37,500	Geo. S. Coblentz	E. A. Boye
"	First National Bank	1904	70,000	W. D. Mitchell	W. M. Barr
San Jacinto	First National Bank	1906	135,000	A. G. Hubbard	C. L. Emerson
"	First Savings Bank	1911	25,000	A. G. Hubbard	C. L. Emerson
San Jose	Bank of San Jose	1866	495,500	Wm. Knox Beans	V. J. LaMotte
"	First National Bank	1874	400,000	W. S. Clayton	Paul Furst
"	Garden City Bank and Tr. Co.	1887	575,000	T. S. Montgomery	A. B. Post
"	San Jose Safe Deposit Bank	1885	1,000,000	E. McLaughlin	W. H. Pabst
"	Security Savings Bank	1891	150,000	Henry Curtner	W. J. Edwards
"	Security State Bank	1902	150,000	Henry Curtner	W. J. Edwards
San Leandro	Bank of San Leandro	1893	129,000	A. B. Cary	Chas. H. Hale
"	First National Bank	1893	85,000	L. C. Morehouse	Chas. H. Hale
"	San Leandro State Bank	1911	52,500	A. S. Weaver	A. S. Weaver
San Luis Obispo	Commercial Bank	1888	400,000	J. W. Barneberg	H. L. Kemper
"	Union National Bank	1905	105,000	W. T. Summers	Wm. C. H. Dibblee
San Mateo	National Bank of San Mateo	1909	53,000	Hall C. Ross	E. R. Dixon
San Pedro	Bank of San Pedro	1888	63,500	Henry E. Sherer	Henry Baly
"	Citizens Savings Bank	1903	35,000	Henry Baly	Henry E. Sherer
"	First National Bank	1904	65,000	W. A. Bonynge	E. B. Moores
"	Harbor City Savings Bank	1906	36,000	W. A. Bonynge	P. M. Gaffey
San Rafael	Bank of San Rafael	1912	129,000	M. T. Freitas	W. P. Murray
"	Marin County National Bank	1912	62,000	S. H. Cheda	Geo. C. Hansen
"	Marin County Savings Bank	1899	82,000	S. H. Cheda	G. C. Hansen
Santa Ana	California National Bank	1911	125,000	John Cubbon	Wm. F. Lutz
"	Citizens Com. and Sav. Bank	1914	50,000	E. E. Vincent	L. M. Doyle
"	Farmers and Mer. Nat. Bank	1905	250,000	W. A. Huff	J. A. Turner
"	First National Bank	1886	600,000	M. M. Crookshank	C. S. Crookshank
"	Home Savings Bank	1905	52,000	W. A. Huff	J. A. Turner
"	Orange Co. Sav. and Trust Co.	1889	297,675	E. G. Holmes	H. T. Rutherford
"	Santa Ana Savings Bank	1902	50,000	M. M. Crookshank	C. S. Crookshank
Santa Barbara	Central Bank	1903	73,800	Frank Smith	W. B. Metcalf
"	Commercial Bank	1887	237,000	George S. Edwards	Alfred Edwards
"	First National Bank	1871	200,000	R. B. Canfield	H. P. Lincoln
"	Santa Barbara Co. Nat. Bank	1875	200,000	C. A. Edwards	J. M. Warren
"	Santa Barbara Sav. & Ln. Bk.	1891	252,000	Geo. S. Edwards	Alfred Edwards
Santa Clara	Mission Bank	1910	31,500	R. A. Fatjo	H. L. Warburton
"	Santa Clara Valley Bank	1893	130,000	H. E. Losse	F. A. Birge
Santa Cruz	City Savings Bank	1887	161,000	F. D. Baldwin	T. G. McCreary
"	First National Bank	1886	160,000	F. D. Baldwin	T. G. McCreary
"	Farmers and Mer. Nat. Bank	1892	116,000	W. P. Netherton	L. F. Hinds
"	People's Savings Bank	1892	64,280	W. P. Netherton	L. F. Hinds
"	Santa Cruz Bk. of Sav. and Ln.	1869	145,560	Wm. T. Jeter	F. J. Hoffman
"	Santa Cruz County Nat. Bank	1875	218,000	Wm. T. Jeter	F. J. Hoffman
Santa Maria	Bank of Santa Maria	1890	400,000	P. O. Tietzen	L. P. Scaroni
"	First National Bank	1904	92,000	A. McNeil	E. H. Gibson
"	Valley Savings Bank	1901	50,000	W. H. Rice	T. B. Adam
Santa Monica	Bank of Santa Monica	1893	140,000	H. M. Gorham	H. J. Engelbrecht
"	Merchants National Bank	1903	52,500	C. P. Thomas	C. D. Francis
Santa Paula	Farmers and Merchants Bank	1905	36,000	J. M. Sharp	M. N. Shedenhelm
"	First National Bank	1889	150,000	C. C. Teague	A. L. Shively
"	Santa Paula Savings Bank	1905	25,000	C. C. Teague	A. L. Shively

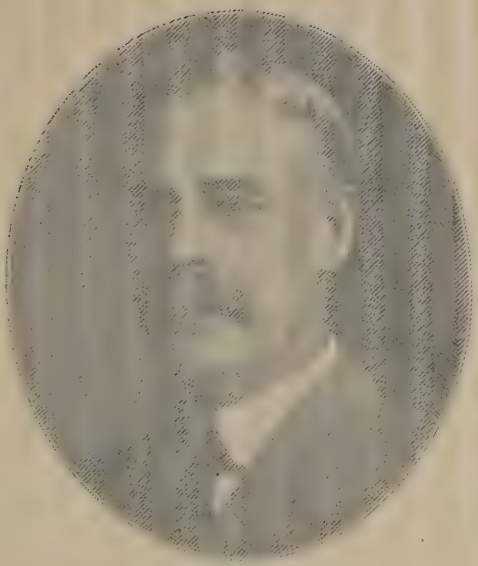
Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Santa Rosa	Exchange Bank	1890	$ 187,500	Manville Doyle	Frank P. Doyle
"	Santa Rosa Bank	1870	211,000	G. E. Murdock	E. C. Merritt
"	Santa Rosa National Bank	1886	227,000	J. H. Brush	F. A. Brush
"	Savings Bank of Santa Rosa	1873	317,809	J. P. Overton	C. A. Hoffer
"	Union Savings Bank	1905	67,500	J. H. Brush	F. A. Brush
Saratoga	Saratoga State Bank	1913	25,000	L. H. Schellbach	J. A. Kerr
Sausalito	Bank of Sausalito	1907	37,500	F. A. Robbins	E. S. Rayburn
Sawtelle	Citizens State Bank	1906	62,500	R. F. McClellan	W. W. Haskell
Scotia	First National Bank	1910	30,000	Don. MacDonald	C. S. Woten
Sebastopol	Analy Savings Bank	1904	66,000	Frank A. Brush	Arthur B. Swain
"	First National Bank	1910	104,000	W. W. Monroe	E. Paulson
"	Sebastopol Savings Bank	1910	25,700	Walter W. Monroe	E. N. Paulson
Seeley	First National Bank	1913	25,000	W. G. Conley	C. H. Connett
Selma	Farmers Savings Bank	1912	26,250	W. W. Forkner	C. W. Christensen
"	First National Bank	1887	150,000	Marion Sides	W. C. Freeland
"	Selma National Bank	1903	52,500	W. T. Forkner	C. W. Christensen
"	Selma Savings Bank	1905	50,000	M. Vincent	W. C. Freeland
Sherman	Bank of Sherman	1906	25,163	O. N. Beasley	Thos. Ferson
Sierra Madre	First National Bank	1907	30,000	C. S. Kersting	F. W. Nuetzel
Solvang	Santa Ynez Valley Bank	1913	25,000	J. M. Gregerson	H. Harkson
Sonoma	First National Bank	1912	27,000	Fred Batto	N. J. Heggie
"	Sonoma Valley Bank	1875	110,100	Frank M. Burris	Jesse Burris
Sonora	First National Bank	1904	150,000	G. W. Johnson	C. A. Belli
"	Sonora National Bank	1913	82,500	T. F. Symons	R. F. Wentworth
"	Tuolumne County Bank	1898	63,000	G. W. Johnson	C. A. Belli
South Pasadena	First National Bank	1907	32,500	J. S. Dodge	A. P. Manning
"	South Pasadena Savings Bank	1904	31,000	E. T. Grau	A. P. Manning
So. San Francisco	Bank of South San Francisco	1905	62,500	W. H. Coffinberry	H. L. Haaker
St. Helena	Bank of St. Helena	1882	93,750	W. W. Lyman	Frank Pellet
"	Carver National Bank	1867	60,000	F. L. Alexander	Leo H. Martin
"	Savings Bank of St. Helena	1892	32,300	F. L. Alexander	L. H. Martin
Stockton	Commercial and Savings Bank	1903	500,000	John Raggio	Edw. F. Harris
"	Farmers and Merchants Bank	1888	650,000	D. A. Guernsey	W. E. Morris
"	First National Bank	1873	400,000	James H. Hough	F. A. Cramblitt
"	San Joaquin Valley Bank	1868	250,000	J. D. Young	R. B. Teefy
"	San Joaquin Valley Nat. Bank	1915	500,000	R. B. Teefy	F. W. Wurster
"	Stockton Savings Bank	1882	440,000	G. E. Catts	W. H. Lyons
"	Stockton Sav. and Loan Soc.	1867	630,000	R. E. Wilhoit	Thos. E. Connolly
"	Union Safe Deposit Bank	1897	161,400	E. C. Stewart	Wm. K. Gill
Suisun City	Bank of Suisun	1876	600,000	R. D. Robbins	R. D. Robbins, Jr.
"	First National Bank	1904	106,000	A. L. Reed	E. D. Holly
"	Solano County Savings Bank	1905	31,500	E. L. Reese	E. D. Holly
Sunnyvale	Bank of Sunnyvale	1905	36,000	C. C. Spalding	F. B. Hughes
Susanville	Bank of Lassen County	1892	135,000	F. E. Humphrey	C. H. Bridges
"	Lassen Industrial Bank	1912	64,500	Jules Alexander	W. G. Culbreth
Tehachapi	Bank of Tehachapi	1892	58,500	D. Hirschfield	Phil Marx
Temecula	First National Bank	1914	25,000	E. E. Barnett	C. P. Shumate
Terra Bella	First National Bank	1910	26,000	Geo. A. Hart	T. M. Gronen
Tomales	Bank of Tomales	1900	125,000	D. B. Burbank	H. P. Bostick
Torrance	First National Bank	1913	30,000	Geo. W. Post	J. W. Post
Tracy	Bank of Tracy	1909	81,600	J. C. Droge	O. H. Root
"	West Side Bank	1910	76,100	A. Grunauer	A. R. Arnold
Tropico	First National Bank	1910	30,000	Daniel Campbell	John A. Logan
Tulare	First National Bank	1907	132,000	T. Nelson	W. E. Dunlap
"	National Bank of Tulare	1885	120,000	J. La Marche	L. L. Abercrombie
"	Savings Bank of Tulare	1913	25,500	J. La Marche	L. L. Abercrombie
Turlock	Commercial Bank	1907	175,000	H. Whipple	F. W. Hosmer
"	People's State Bank	1907	62,000	J. E. Weaver	O. H. Olson
Tustin	First National Bank	1911	57,000	C. E. Utt	Edmund J. Cranston
Ukiah	Bank of Ukiah	1874	177,000	H. T. Hopper	W. F. Thomas
"	Commercial Bank	1903	80,000	W. P. Thomas	H. B. Smith
"	Savings Bank of Mendocino	1903	56,500	J. M. Mannon	A. L. Tracy
Upland	Citizens Savings Bank	1906	31,000	R. F. Lemon	R. C. Norton
"	Commercial National Bank	1909	60,000	R. F. Lemon	R. C. Norton
"	First National Bank	1906	35,000	I. C. Baxter	H. E. Dobbins
Vacaville	Bank of Vacaville	1883	127,000	R. D. Robbins	Edw. Fisher
"	First National Bank	1910	52,500	T. H. Buckingham	H. F. Fowler
"	Vacaville Savings Bank	1910	26,000	T. H. Buckingham	H. F. Fowler
Vallejo	First National Bank	1899	180,000	B. F. Griffin	Geo. R. Cadan
"	First Savings Bank	1909	60,000	B. F. Griffin	J. E. Hamlem
"	Vallejo Commercial Bank	1889	150,000	W. K. Cole	D. Brosnahan

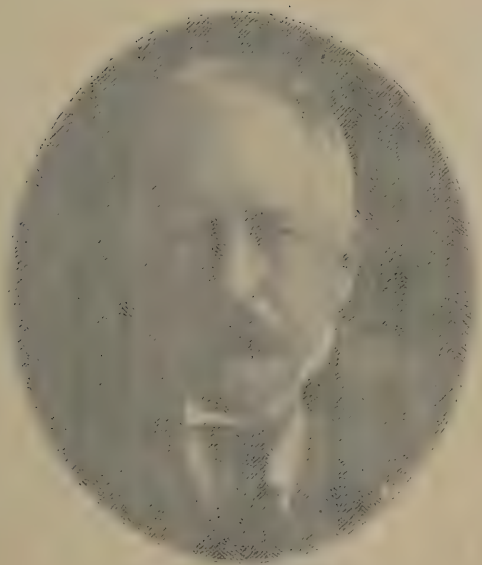
Location	Name of Bank	Organized	Cap. and Surplus	President	Cashier
Valley Ford	Dairymen's Bank	1893	$ 100,000	J. D. Williams	C. A. LeBaron
Van Nuys	First National Bank	1912	57,000	H. J. Whitley	Lewis E. Bliss
Venice	First National Bank	1912	53,000	A. McNally	J. W. Lawrence, Jr.
"	Venice Savings Bank	1905	25,800	Andrew McNally	J. W. Lawrence, Jr.
Ventura	First National Bank	1904	204,000	Felix W. Ewing	Edgar W. Carne
"	Home Savings Bank	1904	54,000	Felix W. Ewing	Edgar W. Carne
"	National Bank of Ventura	1874	400,000	E. P. Foster	J. A. Walker
"	Ventura Savings Bank	1900	125,000	E. P. Foster	J. H. Chaffee
Visalia	First National Bank	1903	200,000	S. Mitchell	C. M. Griffith
"	National Bank of Visalia	1873	300,000	C. J. Giddings	L. C. Hyde
"	Producers Savings Bank	1905	40,000	S. Mitchell	C. M. Griffith
"	Visalia Savings Bank	1891	75,000	L. C. Hyde	C. J. Giddings
Walnut Creek	First National Bank	1912	27,500	A. H. Cope	H. J. Flint
"	San Ramon Valley Bank	1907	94,863	N. S. Boone	J. L. Silveira
Walnut Grove	Bank of Alex Brown	1913	65,000	Alex Brown	John S. Brown
Watsonville	Bank of Watsonville	1874	175,000	H. S. Fletcher	W. R. Radcliff
"	Pajaro Valley National Bank	1888	200,000	Warren R. Porter	C. A. Palmtag
"	Pajaro Valley Savings Bank	1888	85,000	Warren R. Porter	C. A. Palmtag
"	Watsonville Savings Bank	1890	80,000	H. S. Fletcher	W. R. Radcliff
Weaverville	Trinity County Bank	1900	31,250	C. H. Edwards	Herbert Gray
Weed	First National Bank	1910	30,000	G. $\overline{X}$. Wendling	R. P. Cornish
Wheatland	Farmers Bank	1874	42,711	A. C. Stagner	Wm. Lumbard
Whittier	First National Bank	1900	120,000	F. W. Hadley	H. L. Perry
"	Home Savings Bank	1903	50,000	J. Allen Osmun	A. C. Johnson
"	Whittier National Bank	1905	150,000	J. Allen Osmun	A. C. Johnson
"	Whittier Savings Bank	1903	55,000	A. C. Maple	C. A. Carden
Williams	Bank of Williams	1892	122,000	H. C. Stovall	J. M. Stovall
Willits	Bank of Willits	1904	95,000	W. A. S. Foster	W. H. Baechtel
"	Willits Commercial Bank	1914	25,000	W. J. Saxon	H. B. Ramsey
Willows	Bank of Willows	1880	500,000	B. H. Burton	P. H. Green
"	First National Bank	1910	83,750	Frank Moody	M. Pirkey
"	Glenn County Savings Bank	1911	78,000	F. B. Glenn	H. M. Plimpton
Wilmington	First National Bank	1909	30,000	C. H. Eubank	Don C. Fohl
Winters	Citizens Bank	1907	100,760	J. E. Sackett	W. S. Baker
"	First National Bank	1885	96,000	M. O. Wyatt	I. A. Morris
"	Savings Bank of Winters	1911	31,250	M. O. Wyatt	I. A. Morris
Woodlake	First National Bank	1912	25,000	James H. Blair	W. S. Bean
Woodland	Bank of Woodland	1868	1,202,625	John L. Stephens	J. H. Willoughby
"	Bank of Yolo	1883	460,200	C. W. Bush	C. L. Richmond
"	First National Bank	1909	155,000	M. O. Harling	J. D. Harling
"	Home Savings Bank	1909	156,250	M. O. Harling	J. D. Harling
"	Yolo County Savings Bank	1891	220,000	John Wohlfrom	J. I. McConnell
Yreka	First Savings Bank	1909	32,600	F. E. Wadsworth	James A. Thomas
"	Siskiyou County Bank	1882	200,000	F. E. Wadsworth	H. C. Patterson
Yuba City	First National Bank	1873	100,000	C. R. Boyd	G. T. Boyd
"	Savings Bank of Sutter County	1912	50,000	C. R. Boyd	G. T. Boyd

CALIFORNIA BANKERS OF TODAY

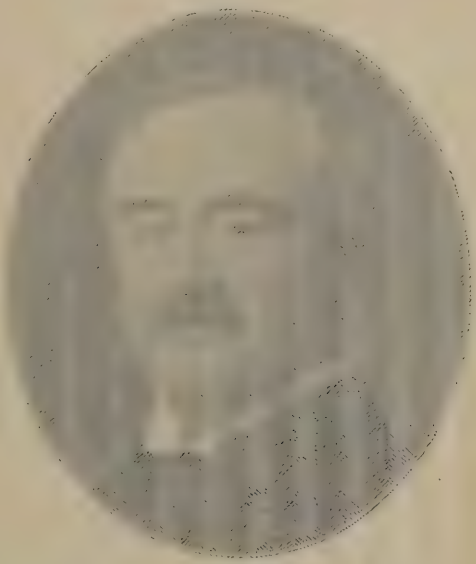


JAMES K. LYNCH
Vice President First National Bank
San Francisco

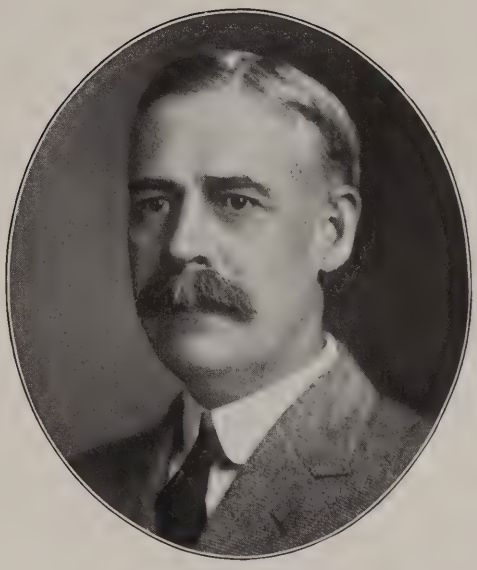




HENRY T. SCOTT
President Mercantile Trust Company
San Francisco

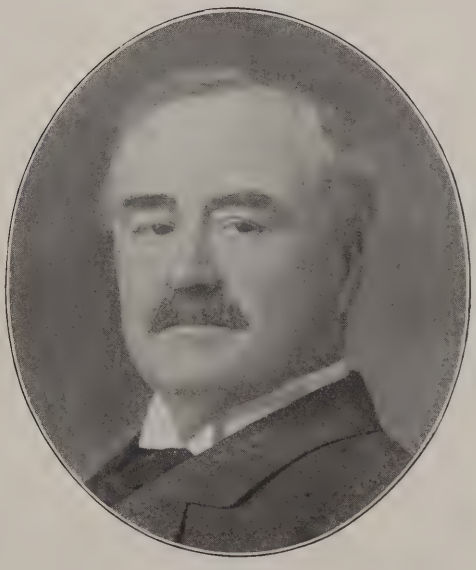


JAMES K. LYNCH
Vice President First National Bank
San Francisco



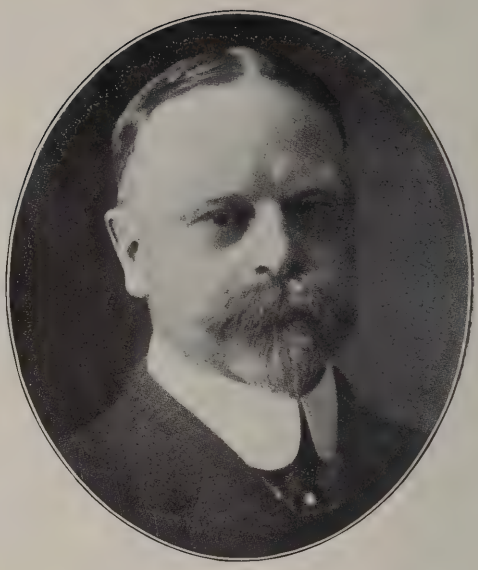
FRANK B. ANDERSON
President Bank of California N. A.
San Francisco

HENRY T. SCOTT
President Mercantile Trust Company
San Francisco

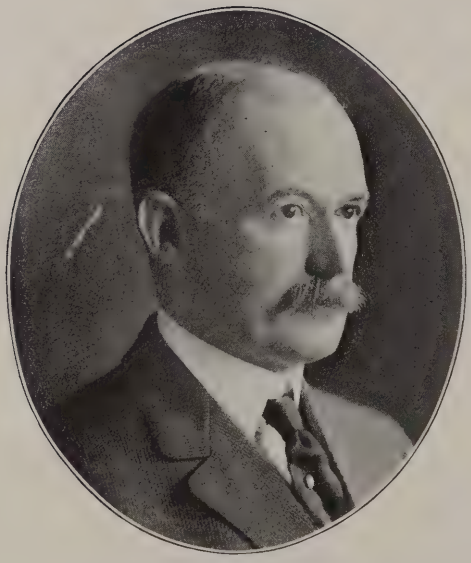


JAMES J. FAGAN
Vice President Crocker National Bank
San Francisco

ISAIAH W. HELLMAN
President Wells Fargo Nevada National Bank
San Francisco



WM. H. CROCKER
President Crocker National Bank
San Francisco



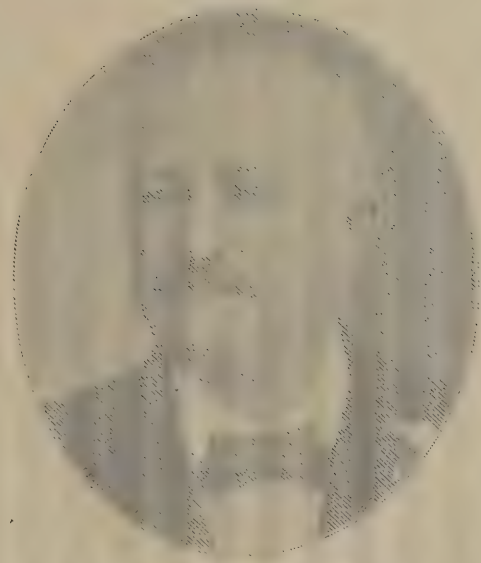
H. N. MORRIS
Vice President Central National Bank
Oakland

GEORGE A. KENNEDY
Assistant Cashier First National Bank
San Francisco

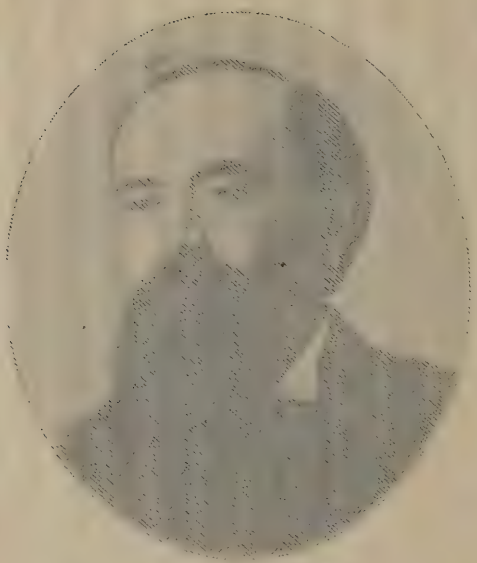
HERBERT FLEISHHACKER
President Anglo-California Trust Company
San Francisco

[illegible]
President [illegible]
Oakland

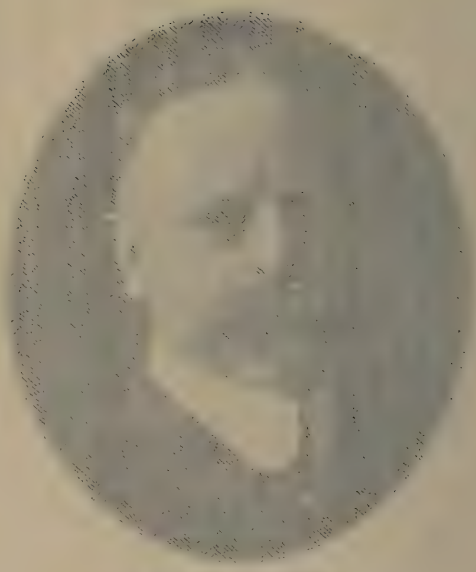
[illegible] EN B. POSTER
President Pajaro Valley National Bank
Watsonville



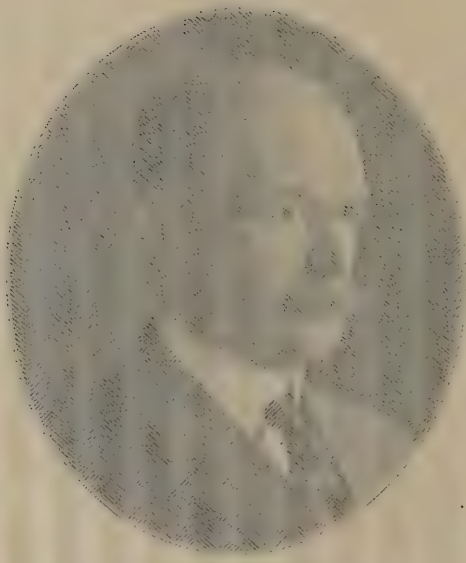
[illegible]
President [illegible]
San Francisco



DAVID W. MORRISON
President Wells Fargo Nevada National Bank
San Francisco



WM. B. CROCKER
President [illegible] National Bank
San Francisco



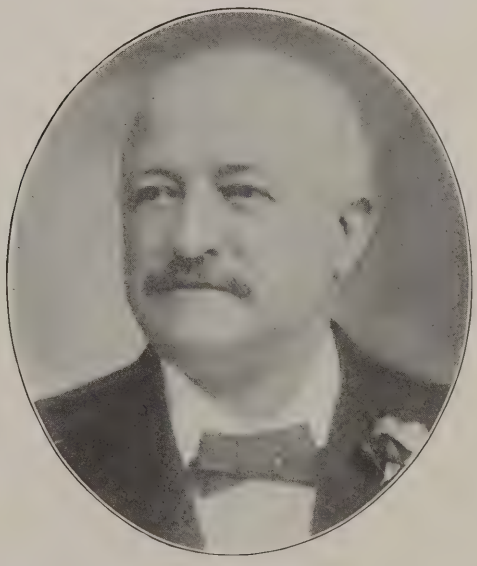
H. W. MORRIS
Vice President Central National Bank
Oakland

GEORGE A. KENNEDY
Assistant Cashier Union Trust Co.
San Francisco

HERBERT FLEISHHACKER
President Anglo & London Paris National Bank
San Francisco

J. B. CARLSTON
President Central National Bank
Oakland

WARREN R. PORTER
President Pajaro Valley National Bank
Watsonville



A. SBARBORO
President Italian-American Bank
San Francisco

MORTIMER FLEISHHACKER
President Anglo California Trust Company
San Francisco

J. E. FISHBURN
President National Bank of California
Los Angeles

MOTLEY H. FLINT
Vice President Los Angeles Trust and Savings
Bank, Los Angeles

H. S. FLETCHER
President Bank of Watsonville
Watsonville

. . WIGDAL
President Home Savings Bank
Los Angeles

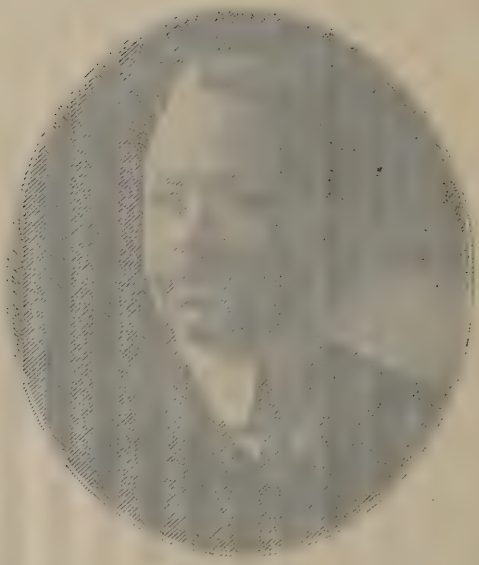
[illegible] National Bank

B. . TUCKER
President [illegible] National Bank
Long Beach

[illegible] National Bank

MORTIMER FLEISHHACKER
President Anglo-California Trust Company
San Francisco

A. E. FISHBURN
President National Bank of California
Los Angeles



MORTIMER N. [illegible]
Vice President Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank, Los Angeles

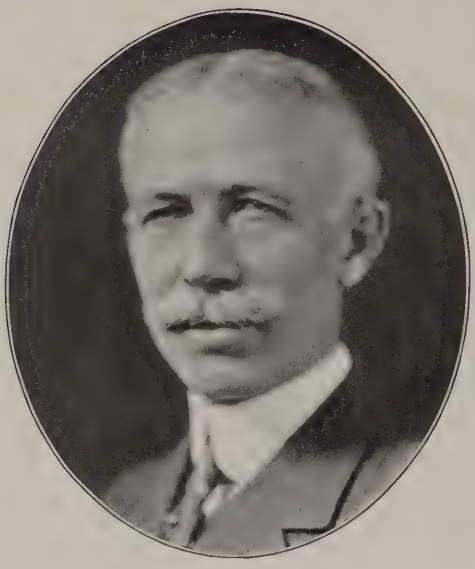
R. S. FLETCHER
President Bank of Watsonville
Watsonville

O. J. WIGDAL
President Home Savings Bank
Los Angeles

J. W. SEFTON, JR.
President American National Bank
San Diego

B. F. TUCKER
President City National Bank
Long Beach

R. B. TEEFY
President San Joaquin Valley National Bank
Stockton



JOHN PERRIN
Federal Reserve Agent
San Francisco Reserve Bank

RUSSELL LOWRY
President First National Bank
Oakland

D. B. FULLER
Vice President American National Bank
San Francisco

W. R. WILLIAMS
State Superintendent of Banks
San Francisco

F. M. HENDERSON, JR.
President Sacramento Bank
Sacramento

ROLLA V. WATT
Director First National Bank
San Francisco

C. A. PALMTAG
Cashier Pajaro Valley National Bank
Watsonville

A. PEDRONI
Cashier Bank of Italy
San Francisco

JOHN PERRIN
Federal Reserve Agent
San Francisco Reserve Bank

RUSSELL LOVELY
President First National Bank
Oakland

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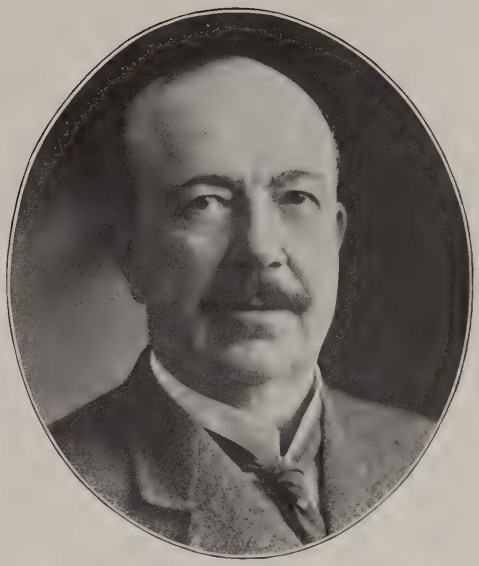
Sacramento



ROLLA V. WATT
Director First National Bank
San Francisco

C. A. PALMTAG
Cashier Pajaro Valley National Bank
Watsonville

A. PEDRINI
Cashier Bank of Italy
San Francisco

GEO. N. O'BRIEN
President American National Bank
San Francisco

HONORABLE JAMES D. PHELAN
United States Senator from California—President
Mutual Savings Bank, San Francisco

WM. PALMTAG
President First National Bank
Hollister

A. B. POST
Cashier Garden City Bank and Trust Company
San Jose

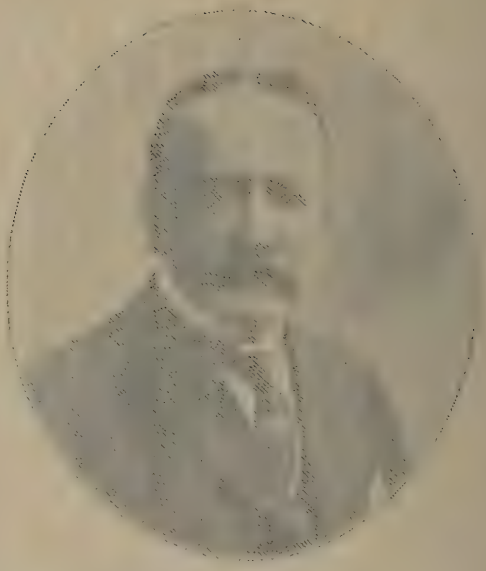
[illegible]
President Security Trust and [illegible]
Los Angeles

O. M. SOUDEN
Vice President United States National Bank
Los [illegible]

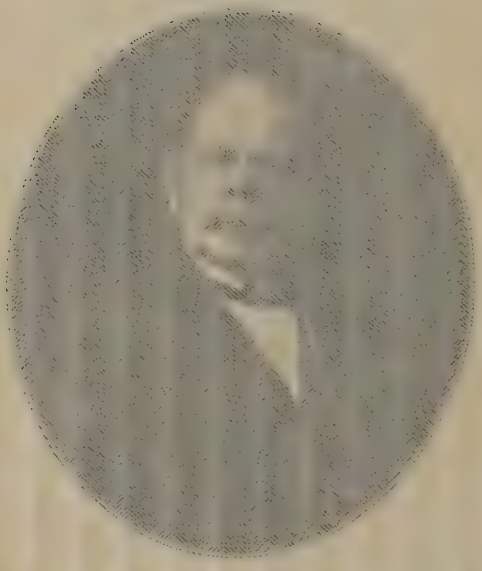
[illegible] SCHLUETER
President the Petaluma National Bank
Petaluma

ELN H. SMITH
Cashier Marine Commercial and Savings Bank
Long Beach

GEO. N. O'BRIEN
President American National Bank
San Francisco



HONORABLE JAMES D. PHELAN
United States Senator from California, President
Mutual Savings Bank, San Francisco



W. S. PALMTAG
President First National Bank
Berkeley

A. B. POST
Cashier Garden City Bank and
San Jose

J. F. SARTORI
President Security Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

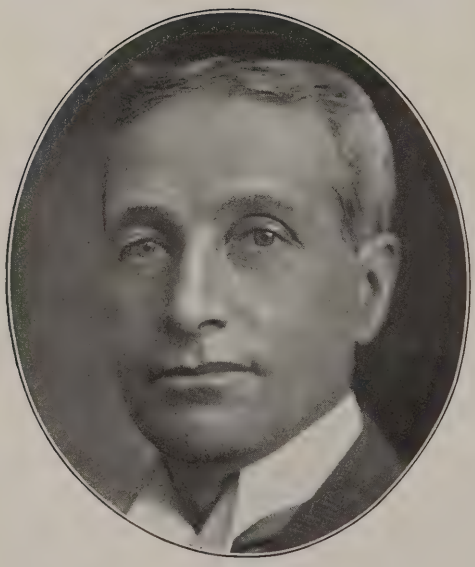
O. M. SOUDEN
Vice President United States National Bank
Los Angeles

HENRY SCHLUCKEBIER
President The Petaluma National Bank
Petaluma

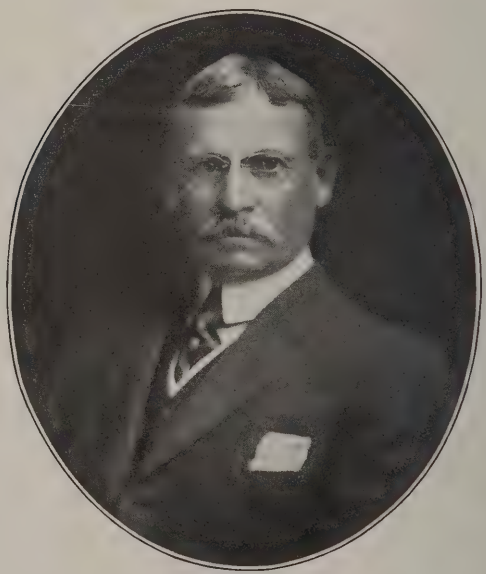
BEN H. SMITH
Cashier Marine Commercial and Savings Bank
Long Beach

ALDEN ANDERSON
President Capital National Bank
Sacramento

EDSON F. ADAMS
President Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank
Oakland



M. N. AVERY
President German-American Savings Bank
Los Angeles



S. L. ABBOT
Vice President Security Savings Bank
San Francisco

M. P. LILIENTHAL
Secretary Anglo-California Trust Company
San Francisco

W. P. [illegible] BOWLEY
President Bank of South San Francisco
South San Francisco

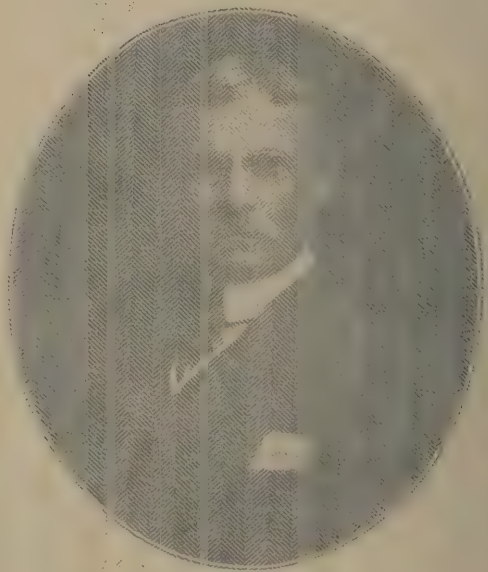
J. B. McARGAR
Assistant Cashier Tenant National Bank
San Francisco

[illegible]
[illegible] and Savings
[illegible]

ALDEN ANDERSON
President Capital National Bank
Sacramento

EDSON F. ADAMS
President Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank
Oakland

M. N. AVERY
President German-American Savings Bank
Los Angeles



S. L. ABBOT
Vice President Security Savings Bank
San Francisco

M. P. LILIENTHAL
Secretary Anglo-California Trust Company
San Francisco

W. H. COFFINBERRY
President Bank of South San Francisco
South San Francisco

J. B. McCARGAR
Assistant Cashier Crocker National Bank
San Francisco

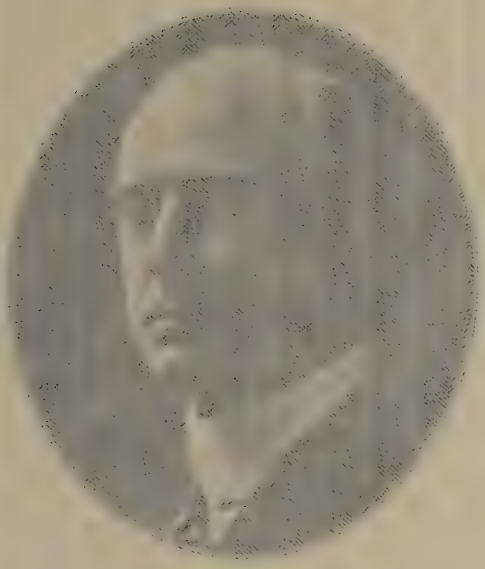
P. C. TURMAN
Cashier Kaspare Cohn Commercial and Savings
Bank, Los Angeles

STODDARD JESS
President First National Bank
Los Angeles

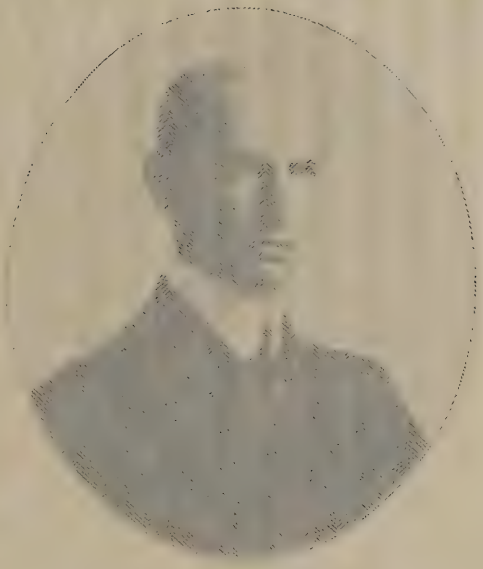
R. D. JUDKINS
Vice President First National Bank
Long Beach

W. E. JOHNSON
Vice President Merchants National Bank
San Francisco

FRED KIESEL
Cashier California National Bank
Sacramento

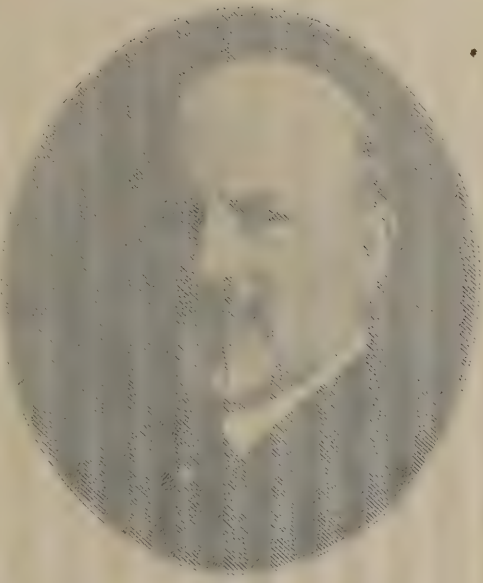


C. [illegible] McINTOSH
Vice President Bank of California N. A.
San Francisco



W. [illegible]
Vice President [illegible]

T. S. MONTGOMERY
President Garden City Bank and Trust Company
San Jose



[illegible]

TODDARD JESS
President First National Bank
Los Angeles

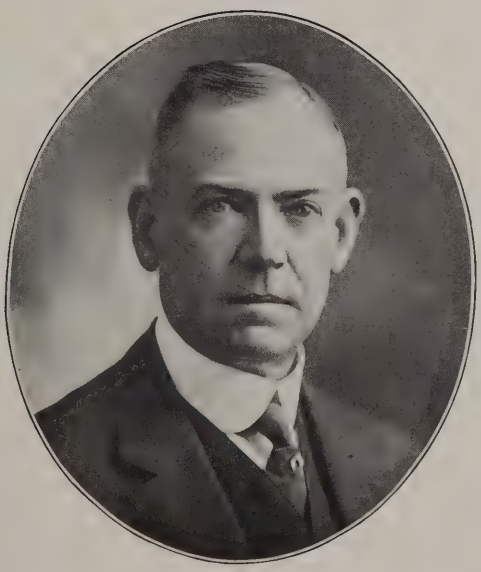
R. D. ALDRICH
Vice President First National Bank
Long Beach

V. J. JOHNSON
Vice President Merchants National Bank
San Francisco

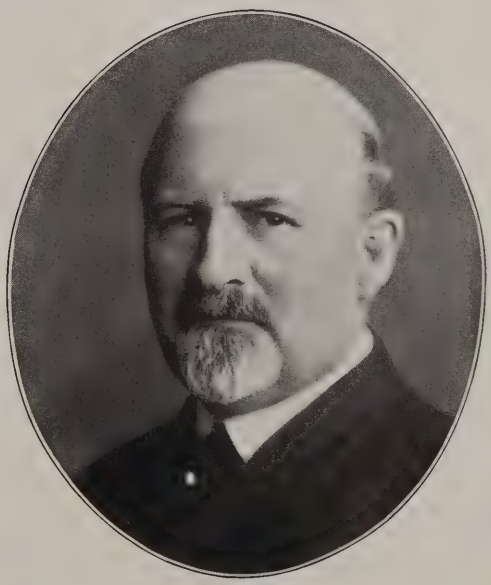
FRED KIESEL
Cashier California National Bank
San Francisco

C. K. McINTOSH
Vice President Bank of California N. A.
San Francisco

W. E. McVAY
Vice President German-American Trust and
Savings Bank, Los Angeles

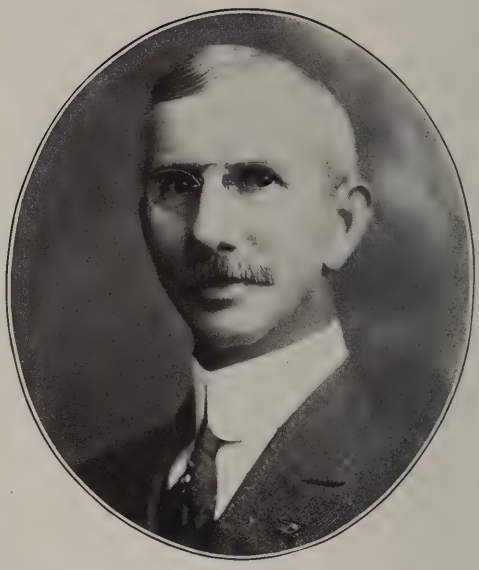


T. S. MONTGOMERY
President Garden City Bank and Trust Company
San Jose



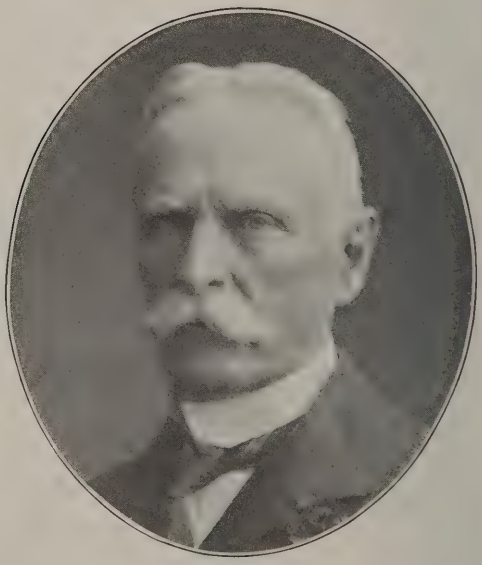
GEORGE P. McNEAR
President Sonoma National Bank
Petaluma

I. W. HELLMAN, JR.
President Union Trust Company
San Francisco



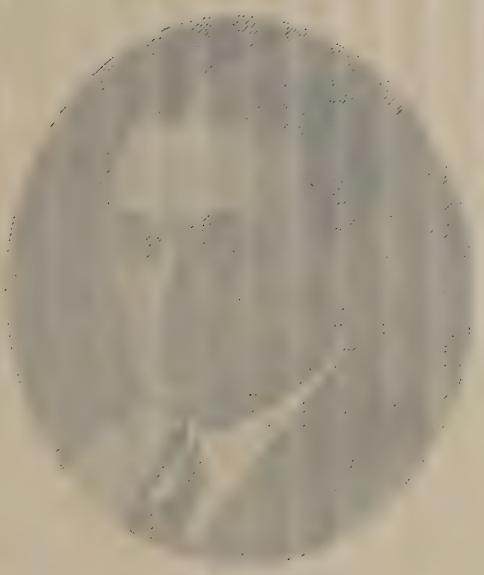
P. E. HATCH
President National Bank of Long Beach
Long Beach

R. S. HEATON
President Continental National Bank
Los Angeles

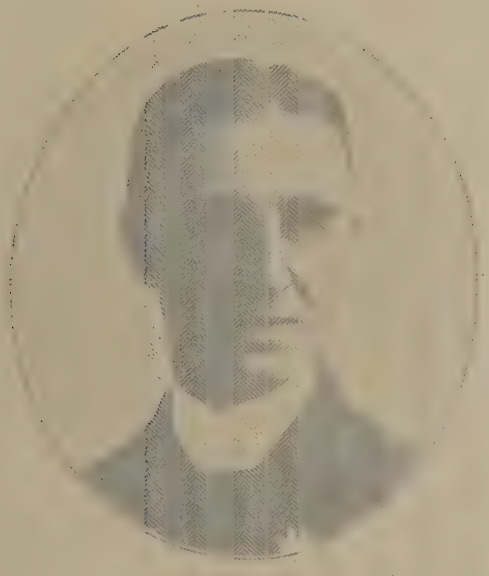


E. W. HOPKINS
Director Bank of California N. A.
San Francisco

R. H. WELCH
Vice Pres[illegible] Savings Union Bank and Trust
Company San Francisco

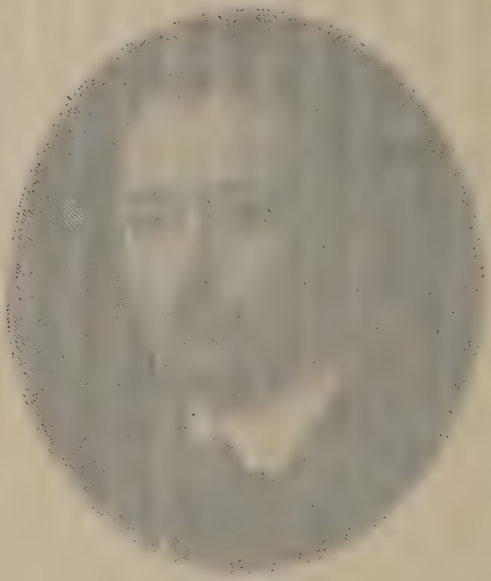


W. W. [illegible]
[illegible] N[illegible] Bank
Los An[illegible]



W. D. WOOLWINE
Vice President National Bank of California
Los Angeles

[illegible]
First Vice President America[illegible] Bank
San Diego



President

President National Bank of Long Beach
Long

President Continental Nat
Los Angeles

Director Bank of
San Francisco

R. M. WELCH
Vice President Savings Union Bank and Trust Company, San Francisco

W. W. WOODS
Vice President Citizens National Bank
Los Angeles

W. D. WOOLWINE
Vice President National Bank of California
Los Angeles

C. L. WILLIAMS
First Vice President American National Bank
San Diego

CHAS. A. SMITH
Cashier Security Bank
Oakland

GEORGE S. MEREDITH
Cashier Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank
Oakland

JOHN H. BARTLE
President First National Bank
Monrovia

W. W. JONES
Cashier Merchants National Bank
San Francisco

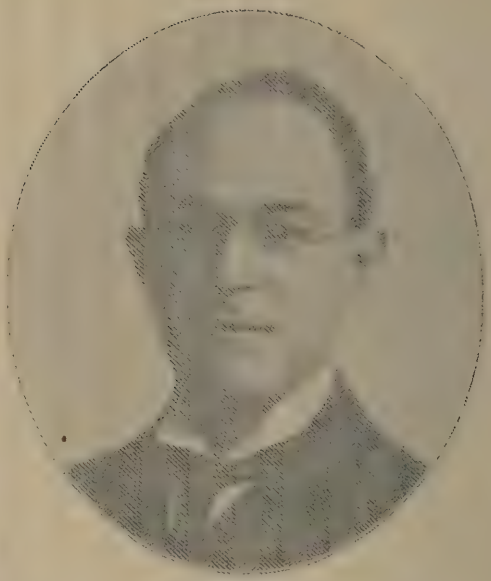
A. J. WATERS
President Citizens National Bank
Los Angeles

J. A. GAYLES
Vice President Farmers and Merchants National
Bank, Los Angeles

E. J. WIGHTMAN
President Marine Commercial and Savings Bank,
Long Beach

BOYLE WORKMAN
Vice President Home Savings Bank
Los Angeles

CHAS. A. SMITH
Cashier Security Trust
Oakland



GEORGE N. MEREDITH
Cashier Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank
Oakland

JOHN H. BARTLE
President First National Bank
Monrovia

W. W. JONES
Cashier Merchants National Bank
San Francisco

A. J. WATERS
President Citizens National Bank
Los Angeles

J. A. GRAVES
Vice President Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Los Angeles

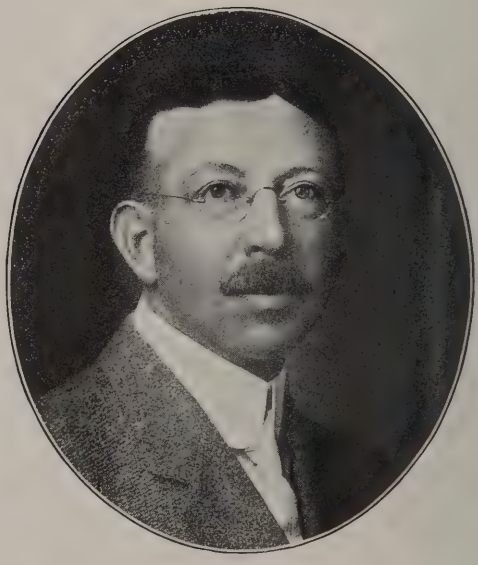
E. J. WIGHTMAN
President Marine Commercial and Savings Bank,
Long Beach

BOYLE WORKMAN
Vice President Home Savings Bank
Los Angeles

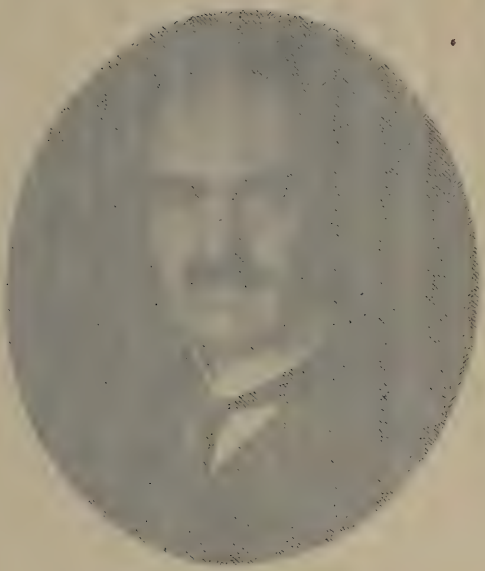
A. E. EDWARDS
President First National Bank
Pasadena

C. F. HUNT
Vice President Anglo & London Paris National
Bank, San Francisco

W. H. HOLLIDAY
President Merchants National Bank
Los Angeles

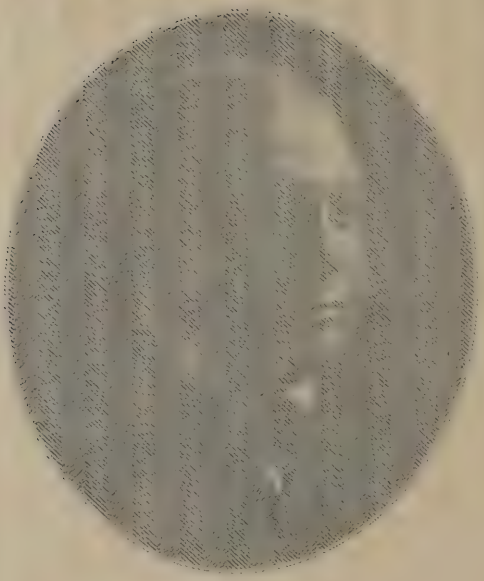


MAURICE S. HELLMAN
Vice President Security Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

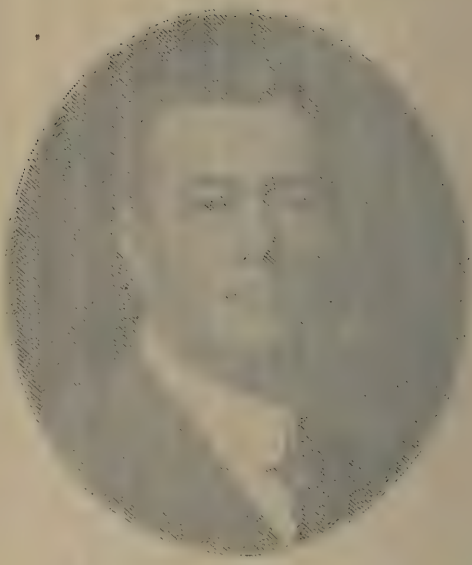


Governor General Reserve Bank
Twelfth District

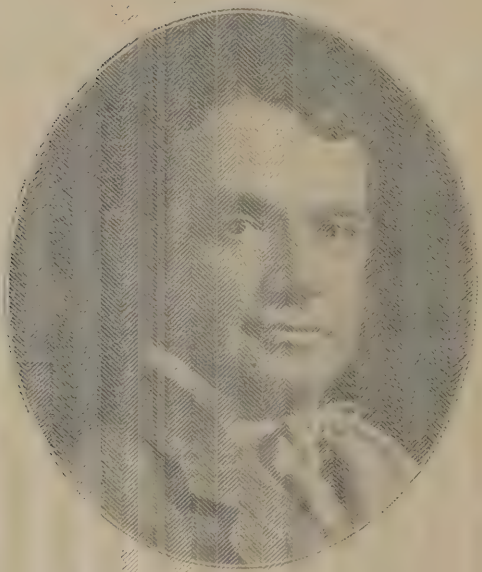
W. W. LEE
President First National Bank
Cleveland



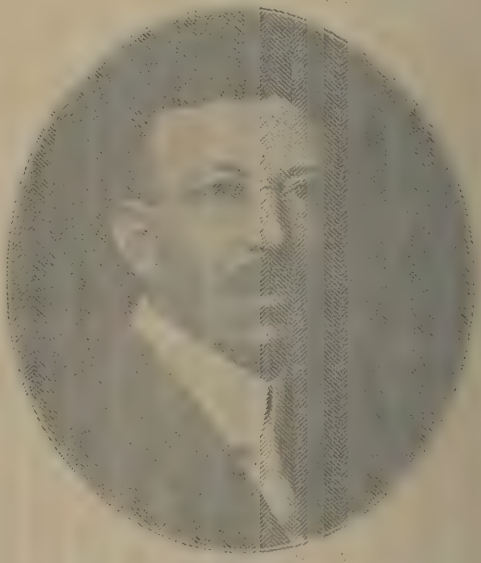
A. E. EDWARDS
President First National Bank
Pasadena



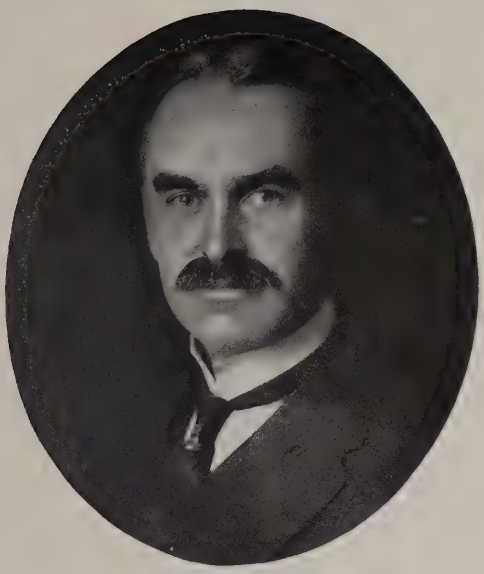
C. F. HUNT
Vice President Anglo & London Paris National
Bank, San Francisco



W. H. HOLLIDAY
President Merchants National Bank
Los Angeles



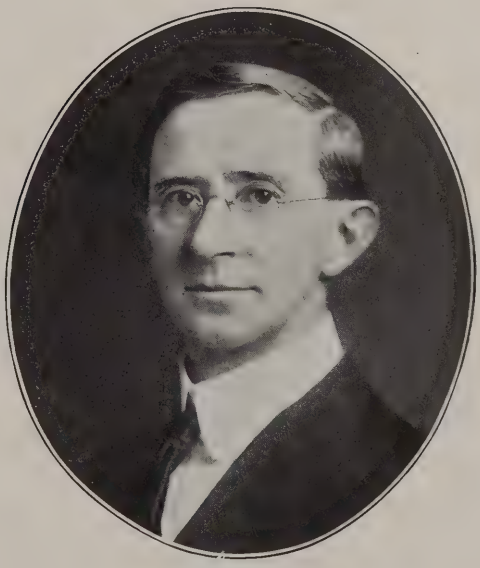
MAURICE S. HELLMAN
Vice President Security Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles



ARCHIBALD KAINS
Governor Federal Reserve Bank
Twelfth District

W. D. LONGYEAR
Cashier Security Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

W. W. LEE
President First National Bank
Glendale



E. M. LEE
Cashier First National Bank
Glendale

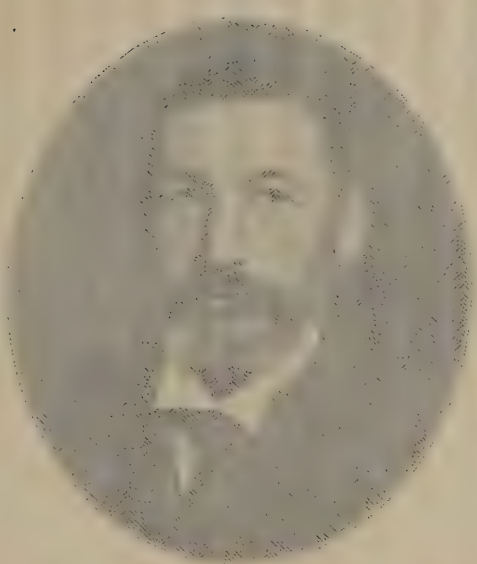
E. D. ROBERTS
President San Bernardino National Bank
San Bernardino

VICTOR H. ROSSETTI
Cashier Farmers and Merchants National Bank
Los Angeles

F. F. PALMERLEE
Cashier First National Bank
Brawley

E. L. REESE
Vice President First National Bank
Suisun City

President Citizens Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles



JOHN LOVEJOY
President International Savings and Exchange Bank
Los Angeles

President

Vice-President First National Bank
Alexandria

C. D. ROBERTS
President San Bernardino National Bank
San Bernardino

VICTOR B. ROSSETTI
Cashier Farmers and Merchants National Bank
Los Angeles

V. E. PALMERLEE
Cashier First National Bank
Brawley

L. [illegible]
Vice President First National Bank
[illegible]

ORRA E. MONNETTE
President Citizens Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

JOHN LOPIZICH
President International Savings and Exchange Bank
Los Angeles

C. J. WALKER
President Farmers and Merchants Bank
Long Beach

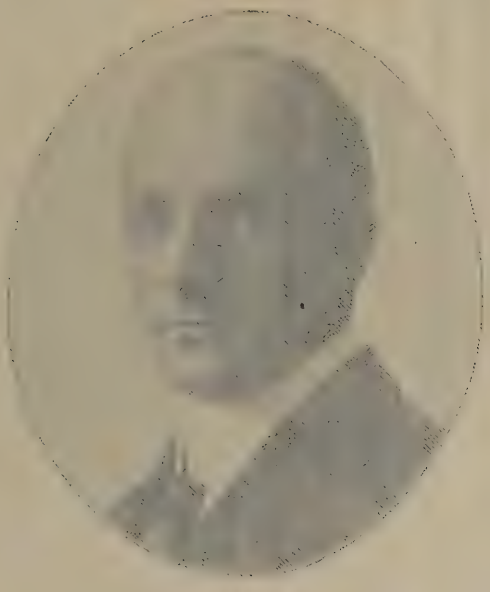
H. H. HAMMOND
President First National Bank
Alhambra

FRANK C. MORTIMER
Cashier First National Bank
Berkeley

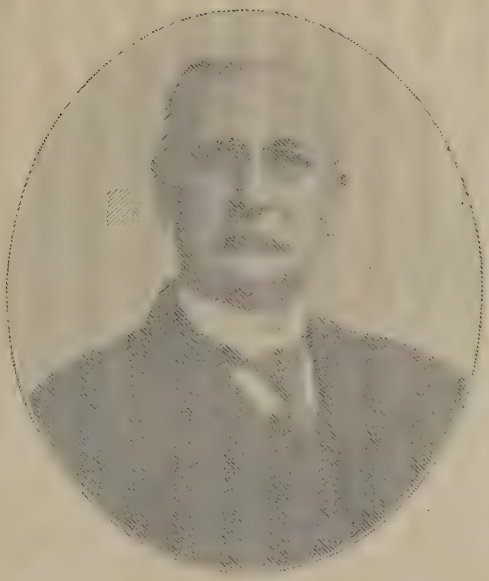
I. H. SANBORN
Cashier American National Bank
San Francisco

C. R. BOYD
President First National Bank
Yuba City

WALTER P. WOOLSEY
President Homestead Bank
Berkeley

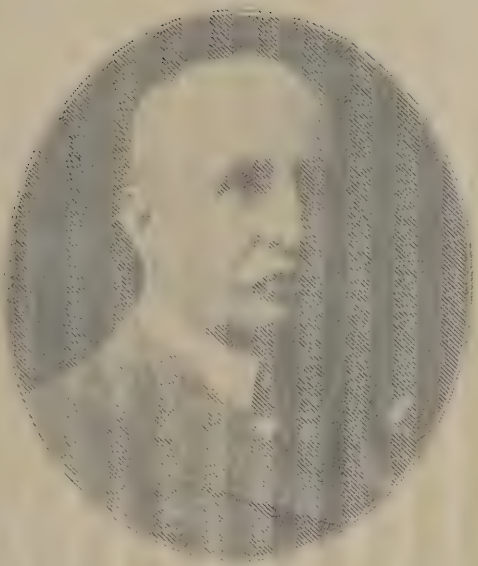


F. J. [illegible]
Cashier First National Bank
San Diego



L. T. [illegible]
[illegible] National Bank
Redwood City

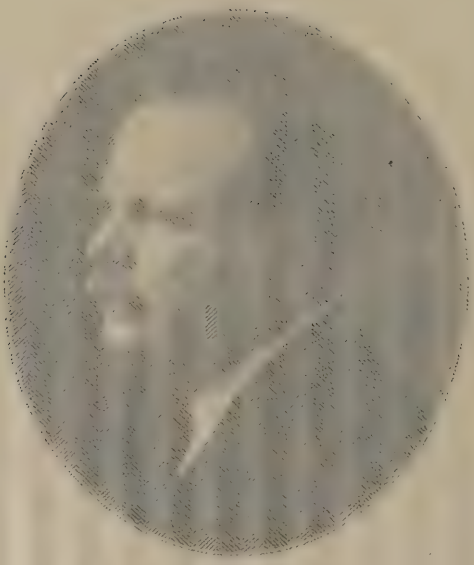
W. A. [illegible]
[illegible] Commercial National Bank
Los Angeles



[illegible]
[illegible] Savings Bank
[illegible]

FRANK C. MORTIMER
Cashier First National Bank
Berkeley

J. H. SANBORN
Cashier American National Bank



C. A. BOYD
President First National Bank

WALTER P. WESLEY
President Commercial Bank

F. J. BELCHER, JR.
Cashier First National Bank
San Diego

L. P. BEHRENS
Cashier First National Bank
Redwood City

W. A. BONYNGE
President Commercial National Bank
Los Angeles

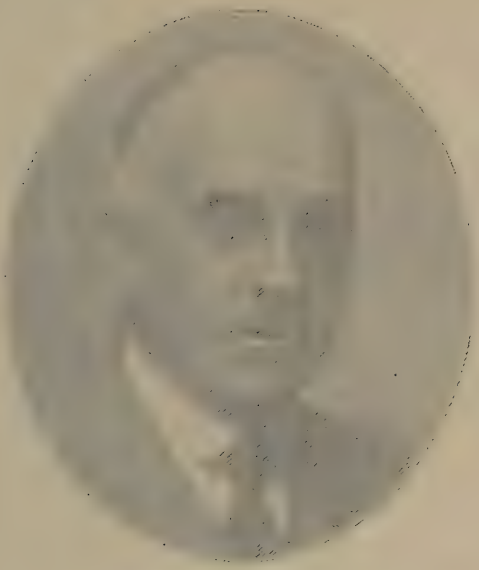
WM. BABCOCK
President Security Savings Bank
San Francisco

G. A. DAVIDSON
President Southern Trust and Savings Bank
San Diego

J. C. DRAKE
President Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

W. T. DUNN
President First National Bank
Brawley

T. H. DUDLEY
President Ocean Park Bank
Ocean Park



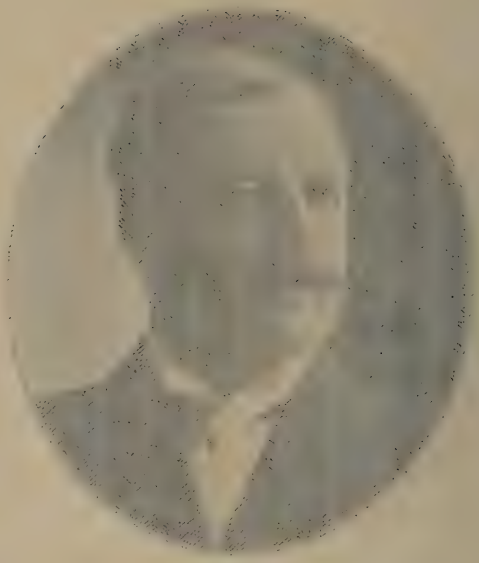
[illegible] RIDEOUT
Vice President Rideout-Smith National Bank
[illegible]ville

[illegible]
President First National Bank
[illegible]

R. E. SWAN
Vice President First National Bank
[illegible]

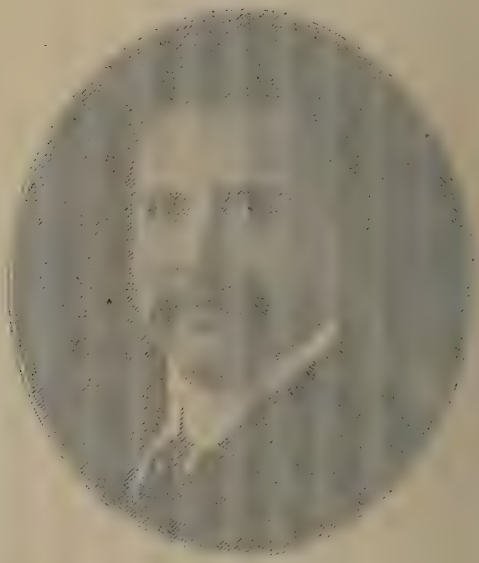
CLAUDE [illegible]
Cashier First National Bank
[illegible]

G. A. DAVIDSON
President Southern Trust and Savings Bank

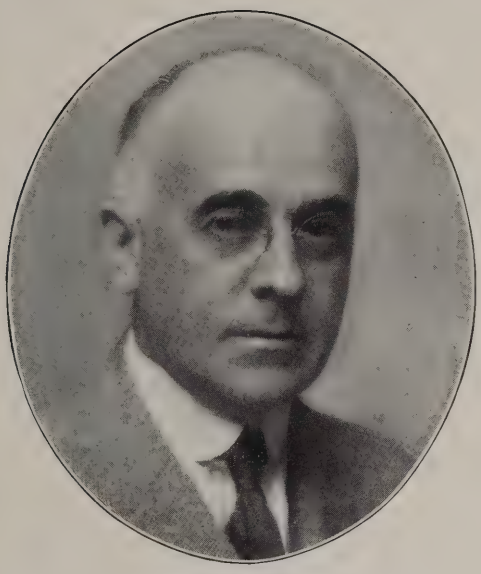


J. C. DRAKE
President Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

W. H. DENNY
President First National Bank

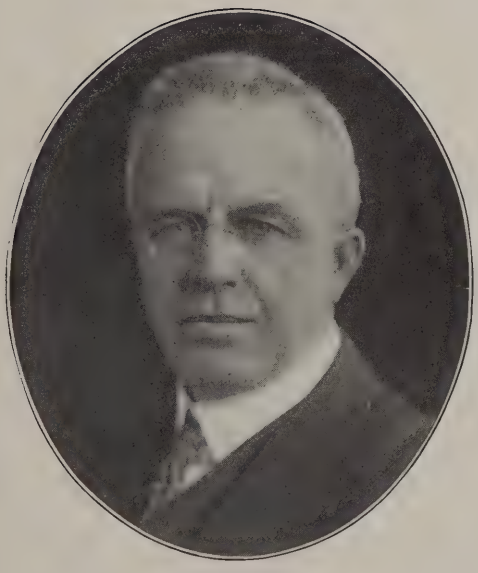


T. H. DUDLEY
President Ocean Park Bank
Ocean Park



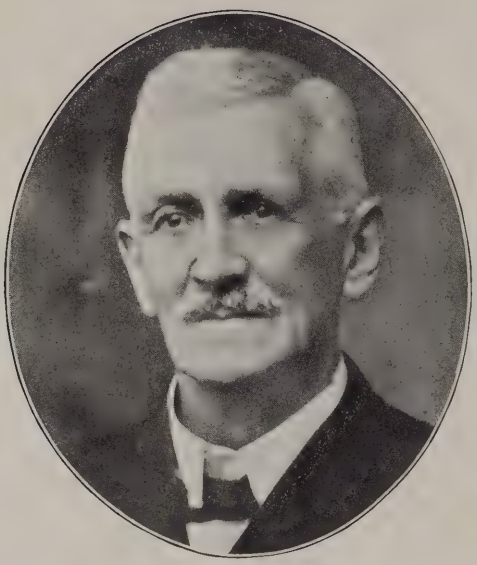
DUNNING RIDEOUT
Vice President Rideout-Smith National Bank
Marysville

L. G. WORDEN
President First National Bank
Merced

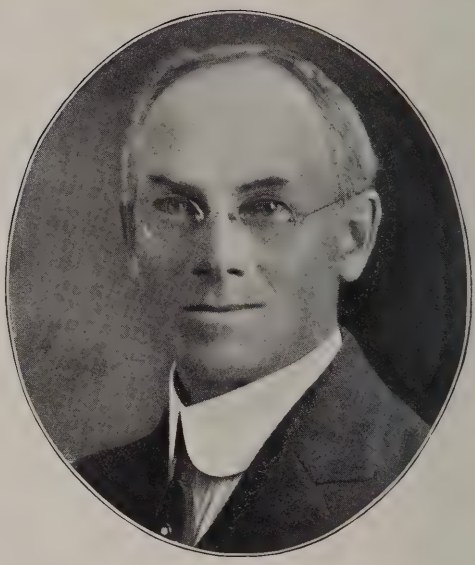


H. E. SWAN
Vice President First National Bank
Ontario

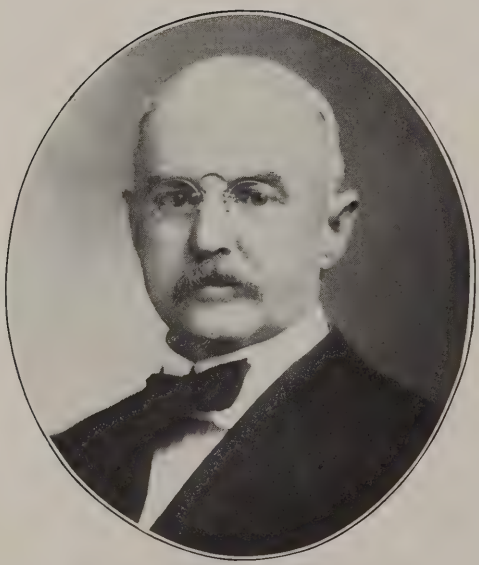
CLAUDE SMALLWOOD
Cashier First National Bank
Pleasanton



J. H. BRUSH
President Santa Rosa National Bank
Santa Rosa



F. A. BRUSH
Cashier Santa Rosa National Bank
Santa Rosa



A. D. WALSH
Vice President San Mateo County Savings Bank
San Mateo

HOWARD BRUSH
Secretary to F. A. Brush, Santa Rosa National Bank
Santa Rosa

J. J. COULSTON
President National Bank of asadena
Pasadena

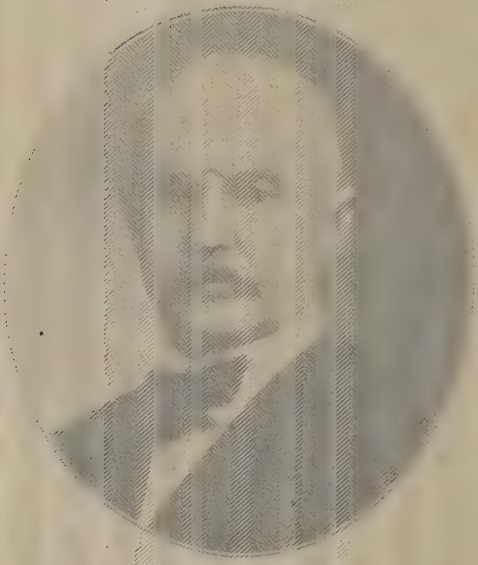
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] amento

STANLEY J. CASTLEMA[illegible]
Cashier First National Bank
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
Long [illegible]

J. H. BRUSH
President Santa Rosa National Bank
Santa Rosa

F. A. BRUSH
Cashier Santa Rosa National Bank
Santa Rosa



A. D. WALSH
Vice President San Mateo County Savings Bank
San Mateo

HOWARD BRUSH
Secretary F. A. Brush, Santa Rosa National Bank
Santa Rosa

J. F. COULSTON
President National Bank of Pasadena
Pasadena

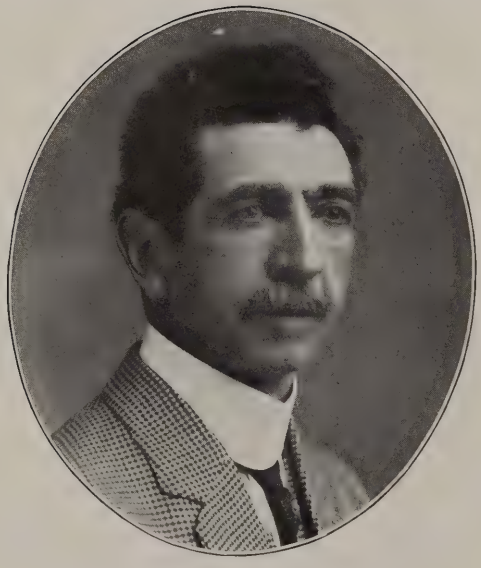
H. W. CONGER
Cashier Fort Sutter National Bank
Sacramento

STANLEY J. CASTLEMAN
Cashier First National Bank
Riverside

WM. M. COOK
Cashier National Bank of Long Beach
Long Beach

T. S. HAWKINS
President Bank of Hollister
Hollister

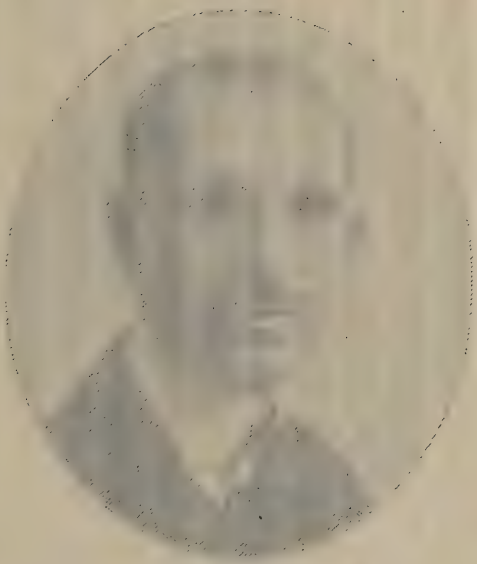
W. H. HUBBARD
President Citizens Savings Bank
Pasadena



C. B. HOBSON
Cashier Mutual Savings Bank
San Francisco

W. S. HOOPER
Cashier San Bernardino National Bank,
San Bernardino

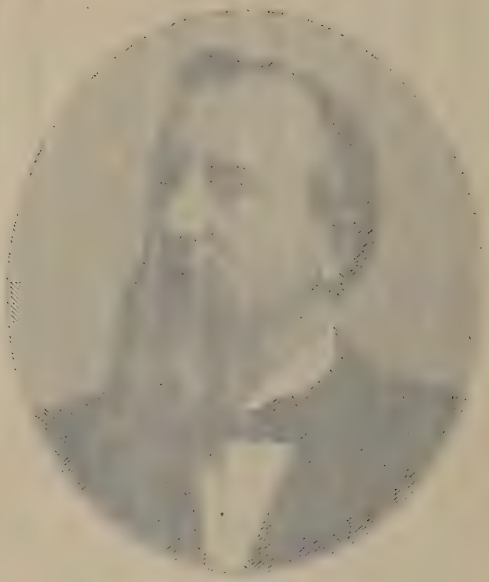
J. [illegible] HUNTOON
Cashier People's Savings Bank
Sacramento



[illegible]
[illegible] President Citizens Savings Bank
Pasadena

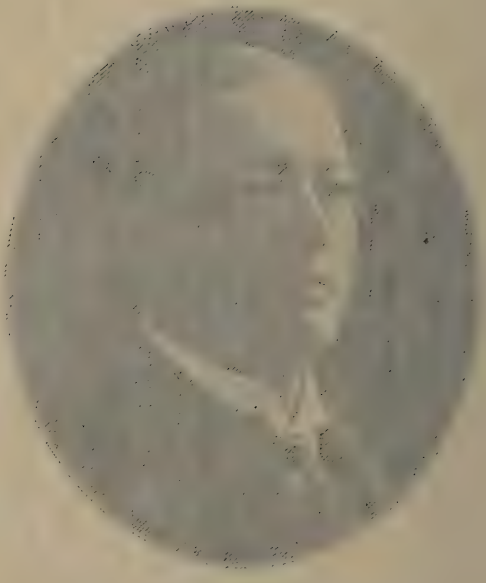
W. G. HALE
Cashier Bank of Martinez
Martinez

[illegible] W. HARRIS
[illegible] Bank of Pleasanton
Pleasanton



W. H. [illegible]
President [illegible] Savings Bank
Pasadena

C. [illegible] ARRISON
Cashier [illegible] Savings Bank



W. S. HOOPER
Cashier San Bernardino National Bank,
[illegible] Bernardino

J. E. HUNTOON
Cashier People's Savings Bank
Sacramento

M. VILAS HUBBARD
Vice President Citizens Savings Bank
Pasadena

W. A. HALE
Cashier Bank of Martinez
Martinez

T. W. HARRIS
President Bank of Pleasanton
Pleasanton

C. H. WENTE
President First National Bank
Livermore

J. E. WELLER
President First National Bank
Fort Bragg

J. H. WILSON
Cashier San Bernardino County National Bank
San Bernardino

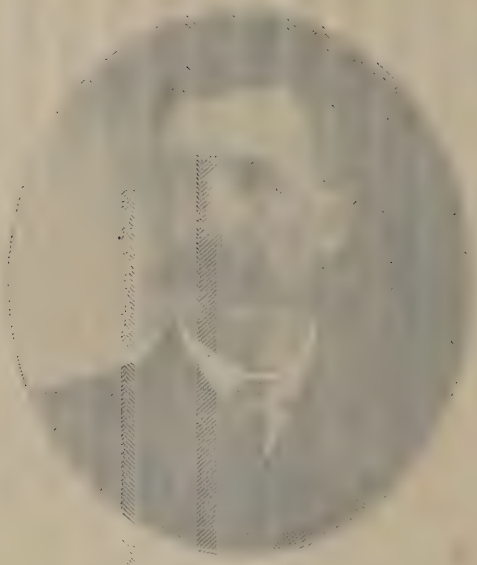
T. A. WORK
President First National Bank
Monterey

W. L. NICHOLS
President First National Bank
Dinuba

C. E. [illegible]
[illegible] National [illegible]

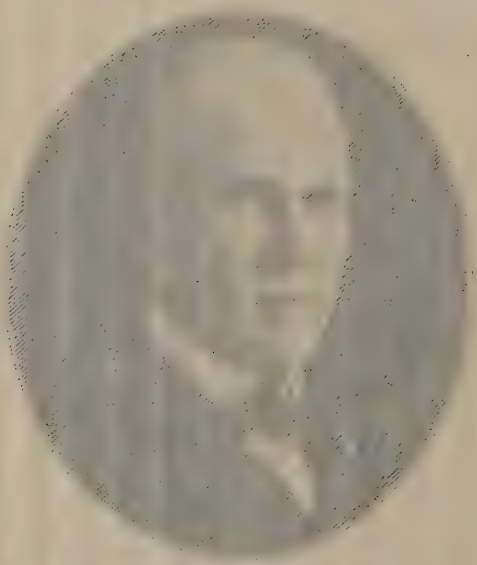
F. I. NAYLOR
Vice President First National Bank
Berkeley

H. P. [illegible]
Cashier Fort Bragg [illegible]
Fort Bragg



H. WENTE
National Bank

J. E. W
National Bank
Fort Bragg



T. W.
National Bank

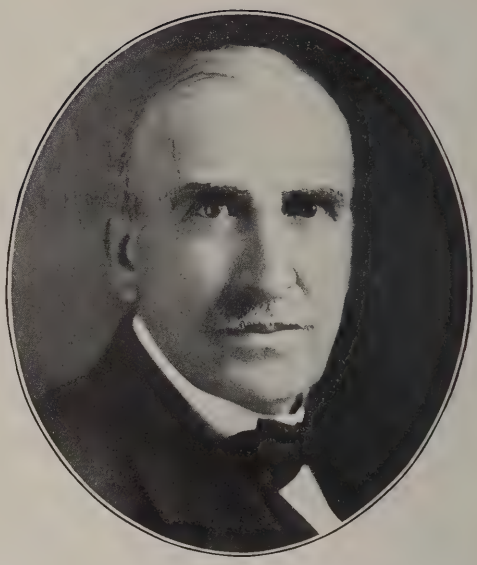
W. B. NICHOLS
President First National Bank
Dinuba

E. E. NORTON
Vice President National Bank of Long Beach
Long Beach

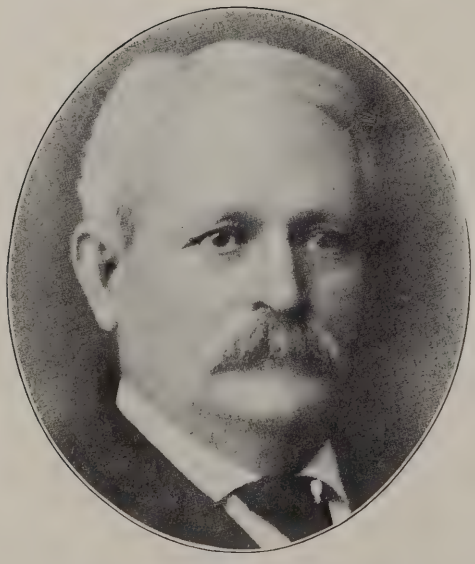
F. L. NAYLOR
Vice President First National Bank
Berkeley

H. P. PRESTON
Cashier Fort Bragg Commercial Bank
Fort Bragg

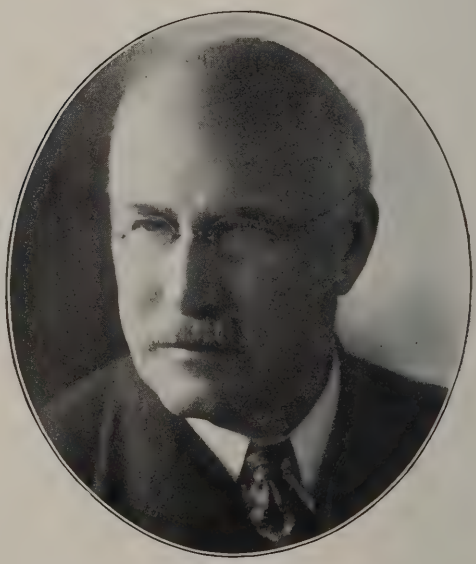
W. A. ZIMMERMAN
President Orange County Savings and Trust Co.
Santa Ana



JAS. W. NORVELL
President First National Bank
Hollywood

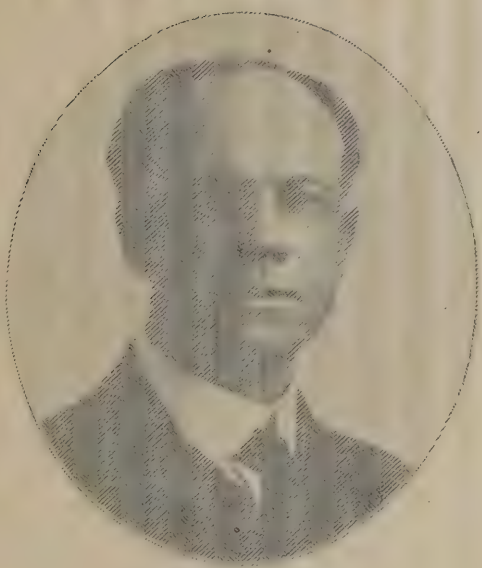


W. R. CHENEY
Director Citizens National Bank
Redlands



A. G. SIMONDS
Director First National Bank
Redlands

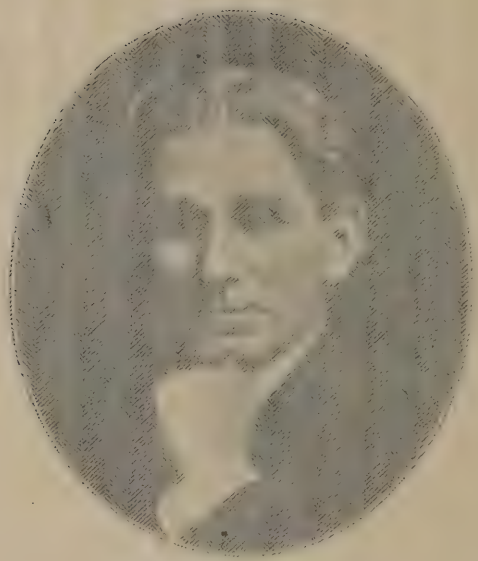
WM. H. VEDDER
President First National Bank
Pasadena



E. J. [illegible]AWTER
[illegible]sident [illegible] National Bank
Ocean Park

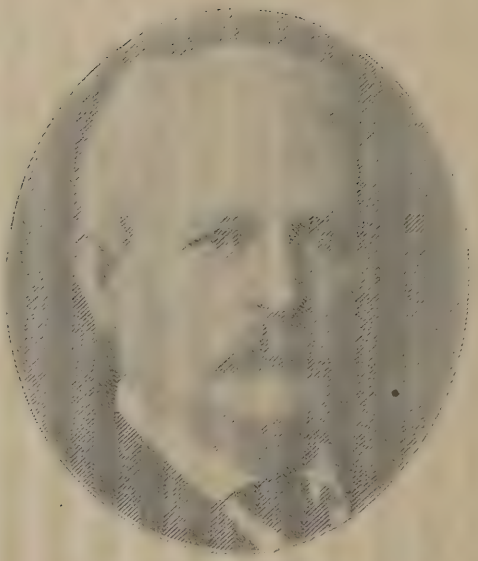
W. P. WRIGHT
Vice President First National Bank
Mountain View

[illegible]
[illegible]dent [illegible] National Bank
[illegible]

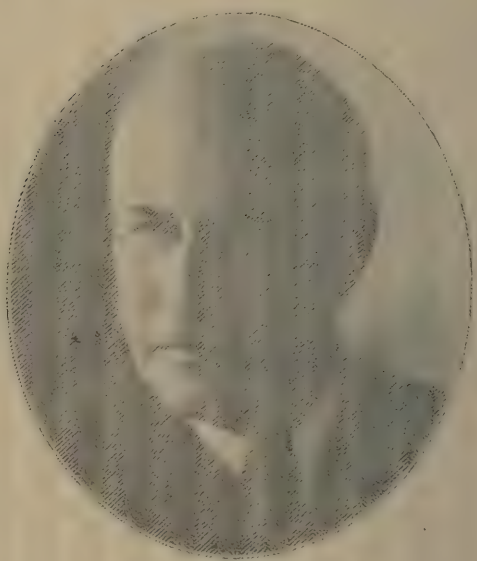


W. A. ZIMMERMAN
President Orange County Savings and Trust Co.
Santa Ana

JAS. W. NORVELL
President First National Bank
Hollywood



W. B. CHENEY
Director Citizens National Bank
Redlands



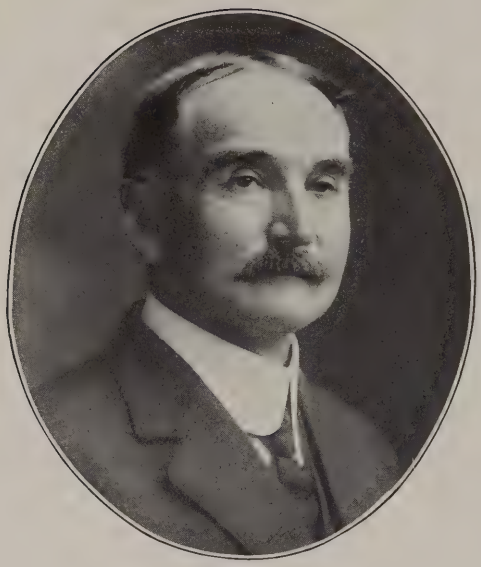
A. G. SIMONDS
Director First National Bank
Redlands

WM. H. VEDDER
President First National Bank
Pasadena

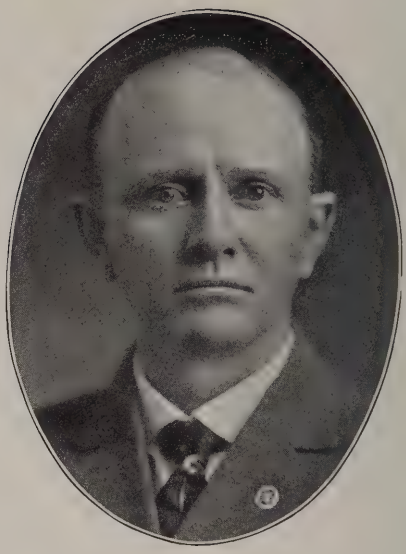
E. J. VAWTER
President First National Bank
Ocean Park

W. P. WRIGHT
Vice President First National Bank
Mountain View

C. R. WELLER
Cashier First National Bank
Fort Bragg

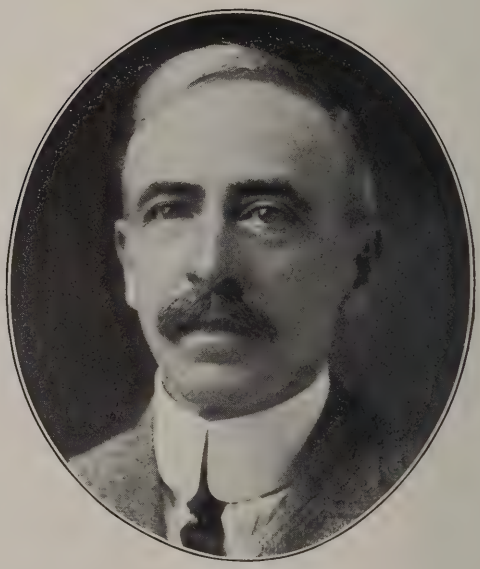


P. O. TIETZEN
President Bank of Santa Maria
Santa Maria.



L. J. THOMAS
President Farmers and Merchants Bank
Imperial

J. C. TOAL
Cashier First National Bank
Arcata

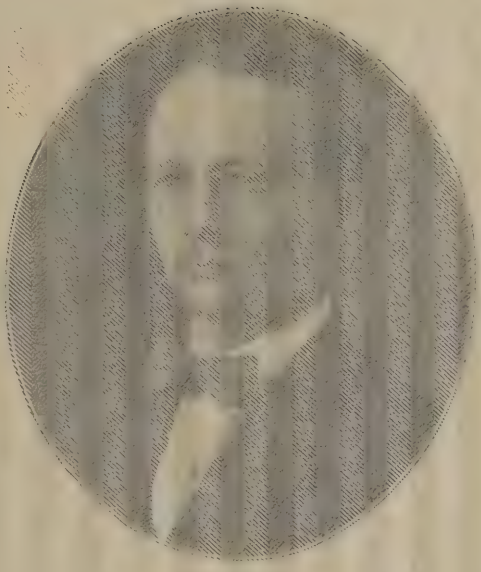


H. M. SHREVE
Vice President and Manager First National
Bank, Tulare

W. H. DOYLE
Vice President Merchants National Bank
San Francisco

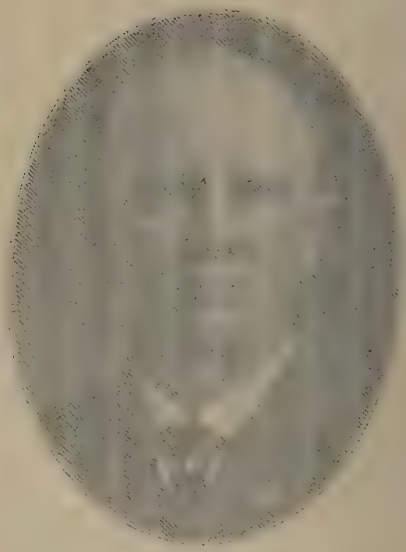
FRED W. DUERSON
Vice-president Marin County National Bank
San Rafael

W. C. DU[illegible]
Vice President California [illegible] Bank
Los Angeles



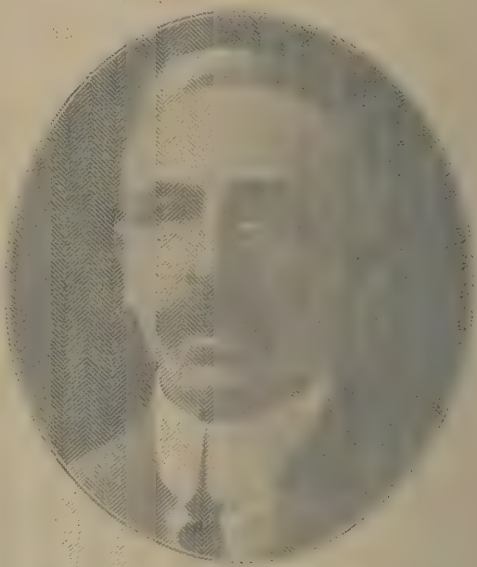
W. E. DUNLAP
Cashier First National Bank
Fulton

P. O. THIESEN
President Bank of Santa Maria
Santa Maria.



L. J. THOMAS
President Farmers and Merchants Bank
Imperial

J. C. TOAL
Cashier First National Bank
Arcata



H. M. SHREVE
Vice President and Manager First National
Bank

W. H. DOYLE
Vice President Merchants National Bank
San Francisco

FRED W. DICKSON
Vice President Marin County National Bank
San Rafael

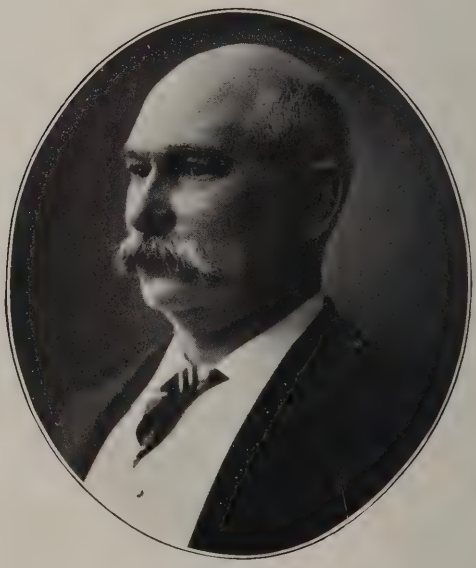
W. C. DURGIN
Vice President California Savings Bank
Los Angeles

W. E. DUNLAP
Cashier First National Bank
Tulare

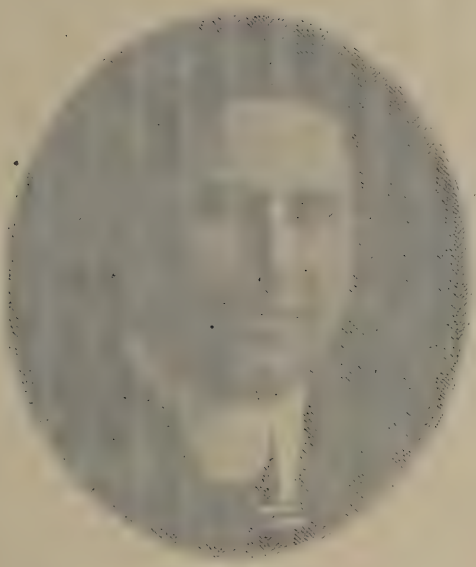
B. F. GRIFFIN
President First National Bank
Vallejo

WELLINGTON GREGG, JR.
Cashier Crocker National Bank
San Francisco

G. G. GREENWOOD
Vice President Hollywood National Bank
Hollywood



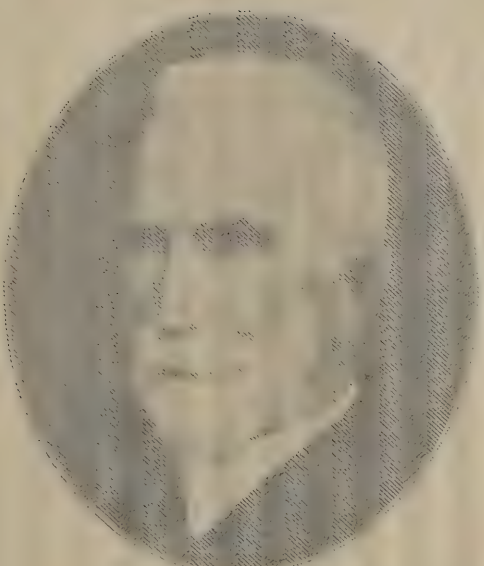
TOM GRANT
Director Vulcan Fire Insurance Company
San Francisco



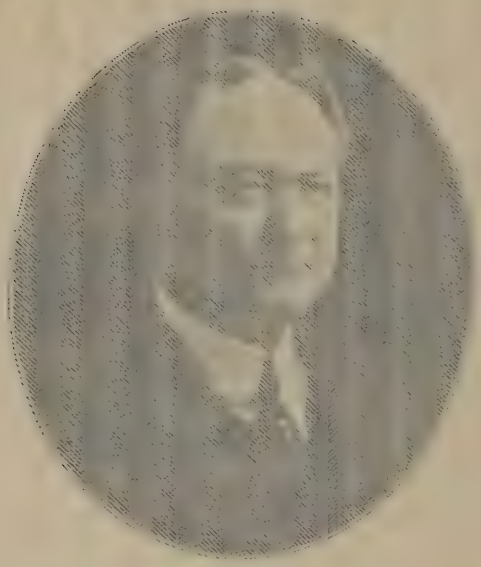
Cashier Hellman Commercial Tr[illegible] Savings Bank, Los Angeles

Cashier Bank of Huntington Park, Los Angeles

S. H. CREDA
President Marin County National Bank San Rafael



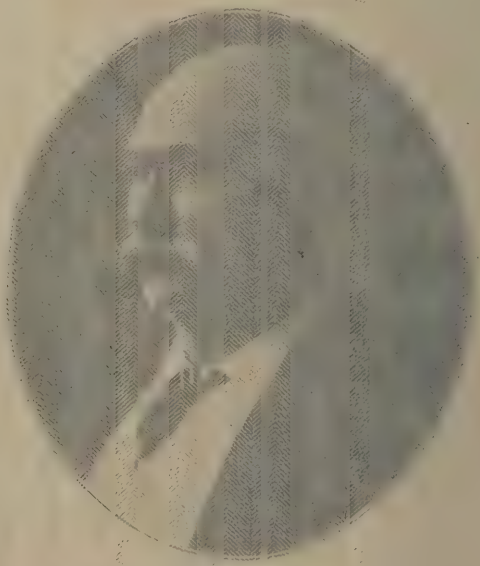
Director Bank of [illegible] Burlingame



L. F. GRIFFIN
President First National Bank
Vallejo

WELLINGTON GRANT JR
Cashier Crocker National Bank
San Francisco

G. C. GREENWOOD
Vice President Hollywood National Bank
Hollywood

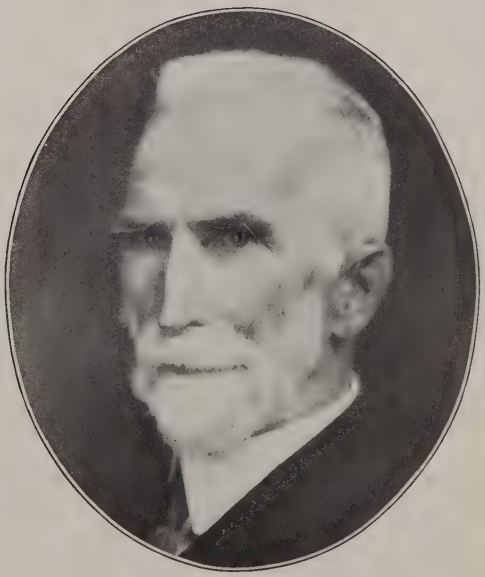


TOM GRANT
Director Vulcan Gas Equipment Company
San Francisco

EMANUEL COHEN
Cashier Hellman Commercial Trust and Savings
Bank, Los Angeles

WM. H. CANDEE
Cashier Bank of Huntington Park
Los Angeles

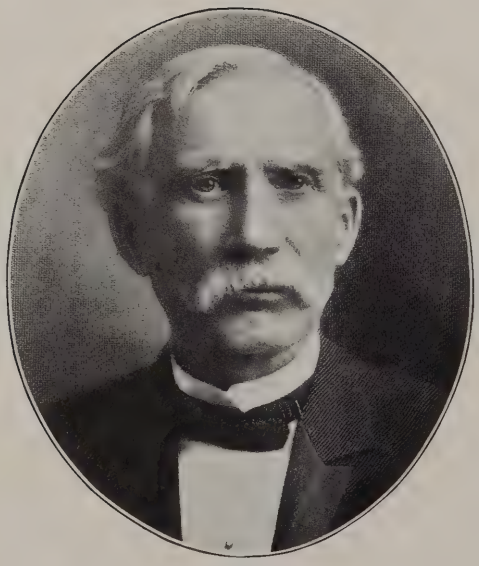
S. H. CHEDA
President Marin County National Bank
San Rafael



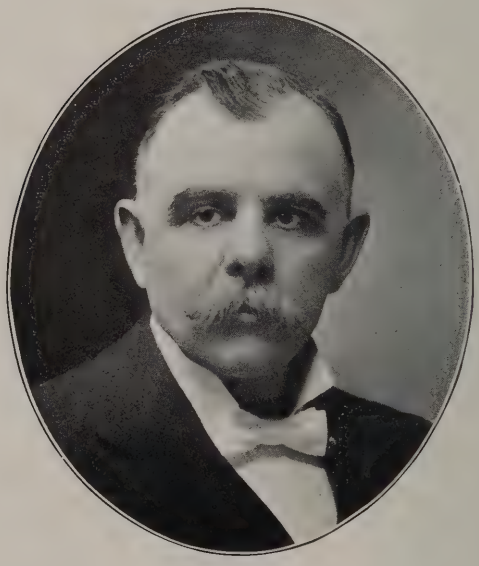
MAHLON S. CRARY
Director Bank of Burlingame
Burlingame

W. R. ROGERS
Cashier Merchants National Bank
San Diego

C. D. SWAN
President Union Savings Bank
Modesto

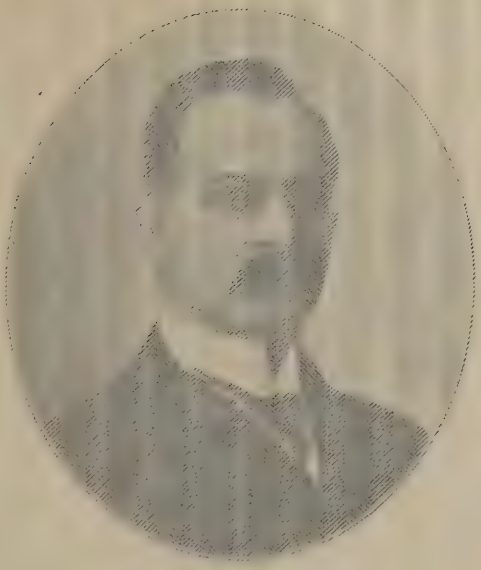


E. W. SARGENT
Vice President Title Guarantee and Trust
Company, Los Angeles

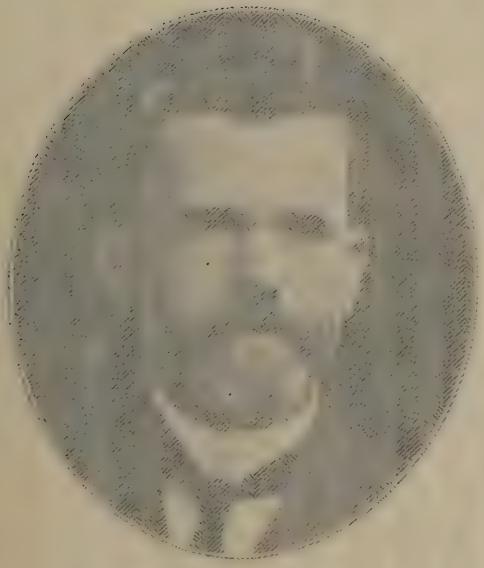


J. A. SIMMS
President Riverside Savings Bank and Trust
Company, Riverside

V. G. DOUD
Cashier Imperial Valley Savings Bank
Brawley

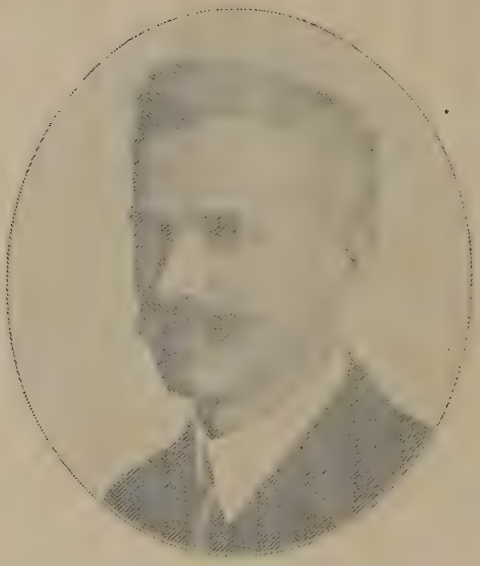


VICTOR L. DE [illegible]
Cashier Portuguese-American Bank
San Francisco



FRANK DOYLE
Cashier Exchange Bank
Santa Rosa

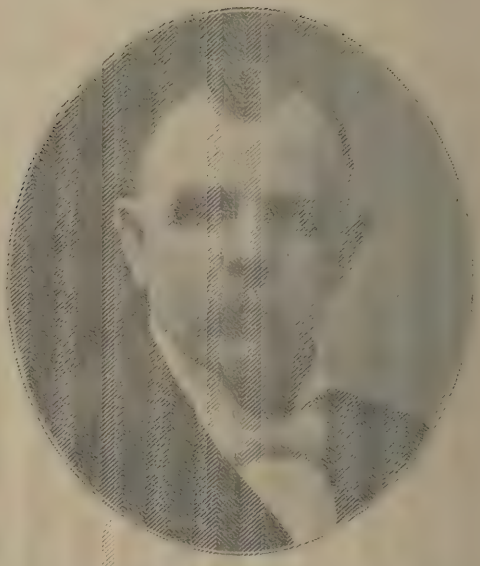
LOUIS [illegible] ELI
President [illegible] Bank
San Francisco



W. R. ROGERS
Cashier Merchants National Bank
San Diego

C. D. SWAN
President Union Savings Bank
Modesto

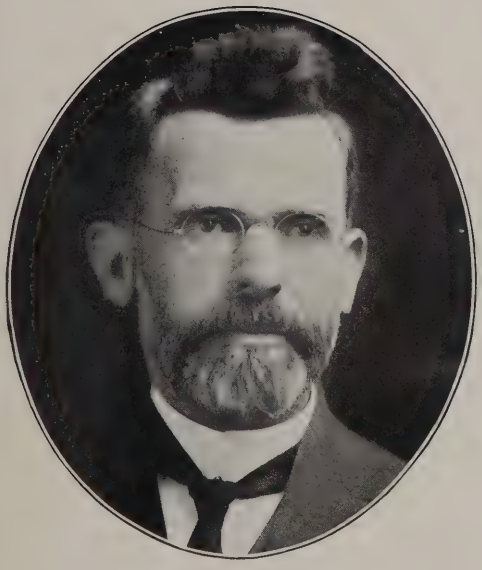
E. W. SARGENT
Vice President Title Guarantee and Trust
Company, Los Angeles



J. A. SIMMS
President Riverside Savings Bank and Trust
Company, Riverside

M. G. DOUD
Cashier Imperial Valley Savings Bank
Brawley

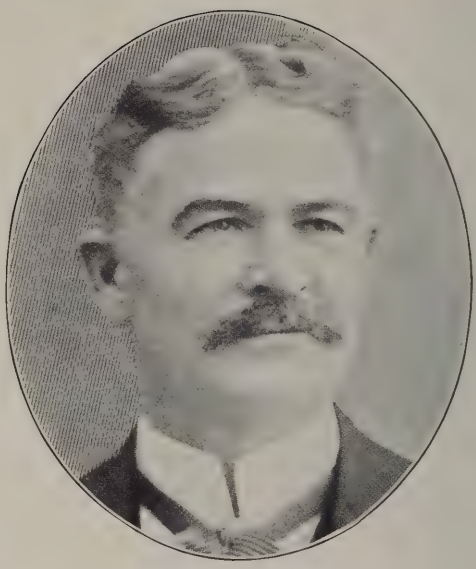
VICTOR L. DE FIGUIREDO
Cashier Portuguese-American Bank
San Francisco



FRANK DOYLE
Cashier Exchange Bank
Santa Rosa

LOOK TIN ELI
President Canton Bank
San Francisco

C. E. EVANS
President First National Bank
Weed



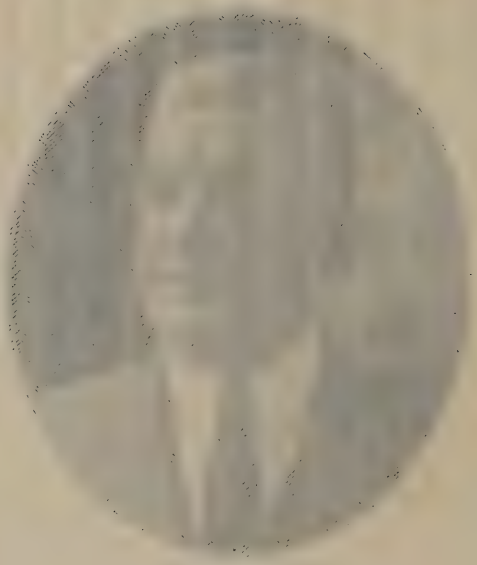
THOMAS A. RICE
President Oxnard Savings Bank
Oxnard

J. J. EYMANN
President First National Bank
Reedley

CHAS. ELLET
Cashier The Mayfield Bank
Mayfield

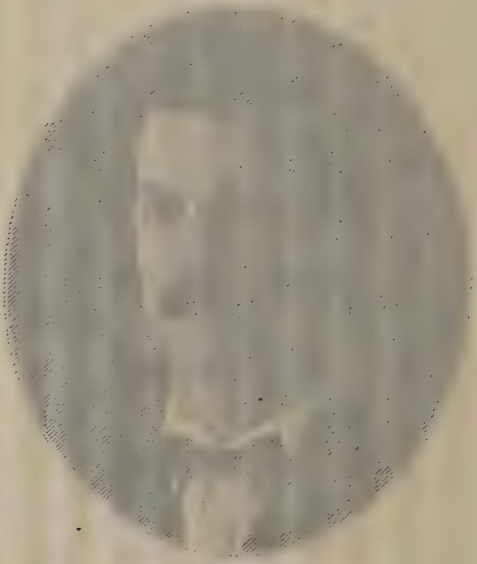
A. LEVY
President Bank of A. Levy

K. E. LAWRENCE
Cashier Monrovia Savings Bank

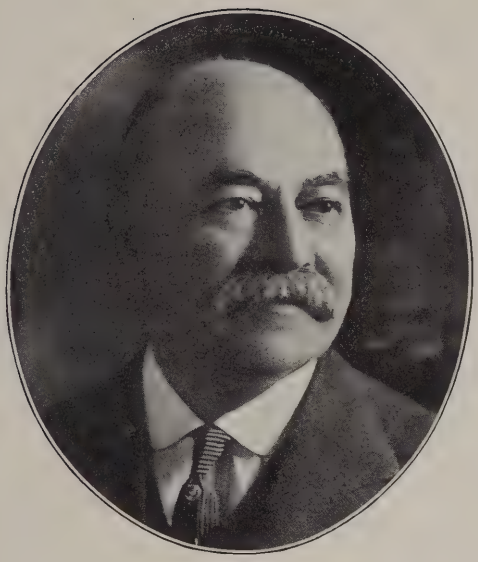


President First National Bank
Weed

THOMAS A. RI
Oxnard Savings Bank
Oxnard



LET
Cashier The Mayfield Bank



A. LEVY
President Bank of A. Levy, Inc.
Oxnard

F. M. DOUGLASS
Vice president Home Savings Bank
Los Angeles

K. E. LAWRENCE
Cashier Monrovia Savings Bank
Monrovia

F. C. KRAUSE
Cashier The Anaheim National Bank
Anaheim

HARMON BELL
President Oakland Commercial Club
Oakland

R. N. BURGESS
President Western Mortgage and Guarantee
Company, San Francisco

F. N. BELGRANO
Vice President Fugazi Bank
San Francisco

GEO. T. BOYD
Cashier First National Bank
Yuba City

CHAS. H. TOLL
Vice President Security Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

B. W. HOLEMAN
Cashier First National Bank
Mountain View

C. L. REED
Assistant Cashier The San Diego Savings Bank
San Diego

GEO. C. HANSEN
Cashier Marin County National Bank
San Rafael

[illegible]
President Oakland Commercial Club
Oakland

R. N. BURG[illegible]
Pres[illegible] Western Mortgage and Guara[illegible]
Company, San Francisco

[illegible]
Vice President Fugazi Bank
San Francisco

GEO. T. BOYD
Cashier First National Bank
Yuba City

CHAS. H. TOLL
Vice President Security Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

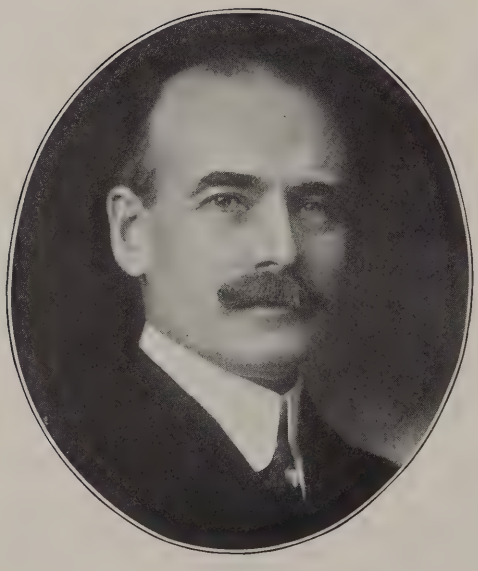
B. W. HOLEMAN
Cashier First National Bank
Mountain View

C. L. REED
Assistant Cashier The San Diego Savings Bank
San Diego

GEO. C. HANSEN
Cashier Marin County National Bank
San Rafael

ALLEN M. CLAY
Secretary Bank of California N. A.
San Francisco

M. K. CROWELL
Cashier Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank
Sacramento



W. F. CALLANDER
Vice President California Savings Bank
Los Angeles

MALCOLM CROWE
Cashier Commercial National Bank
Los Angeles

J. A. WACHTEL, JR.
Cashier First National Bank
El Centro

C. [illegible]

CHAS. A. WILEY
President Exchange National Bank
Long Beach

C. L. [illegible]

Secretary Bank

E. K. CROWELL
Cashier Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank
Sacramento

MALCOLM CROWE

J. V. WACHTEL, JR.
Cashier First National Bank
El Centro

C. S. WOTEN
Cashier First National Bank
Scotia

CHAS. A. WILEY
President Exchange National Bank
Long Beach

C. R. WILSON
Director Bank of Gilroy
Gilroy

W. D. HOWARD
Vice President Continental National Bank
Los Angeles

MILTON E. GETZ
Vice President Kaspare Cohn Commercial and
Savings Bank, Los Angeles

H. B. FULLER
Assistant Cashier Analy Savings Bank
Sebastopol

D. C. KREHBIEL
Cashier First National Bank
Reedley

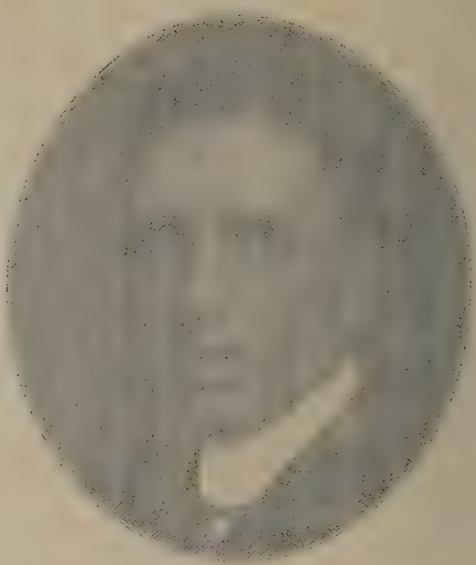
[illegible] McKOWNE
Vice President First National Bank
Livermore

[illegible] MacDONALD
[illegible] Farmers and Merchants National Bank
Livermore

[illegible]
Cashier First National Bank
Livermore

[illegible]
[illegible] Nassau
Maine

[illegible]
Vice President Continental National Bank
Los Angeles



MILTON E. GETZ
Vice President Kaspare Cohn Commercial and Savings Bank, Los Angeles

H. B. [illegible]
Assistant Cashier [illegible]
[illegible]

D. C. KREHBIEL
Cashier First National Bank
[illegible]

JOS. O. McKOWNE
Vice President First National Bank
Livermore

L. M. MacDONALD
President Farmers and Merchants National Bank
Livermore

A. T. LINDGREN
Cashier First National Bank
Kingsburg

E. M. LASH
Cashier First National Bank
Rialto

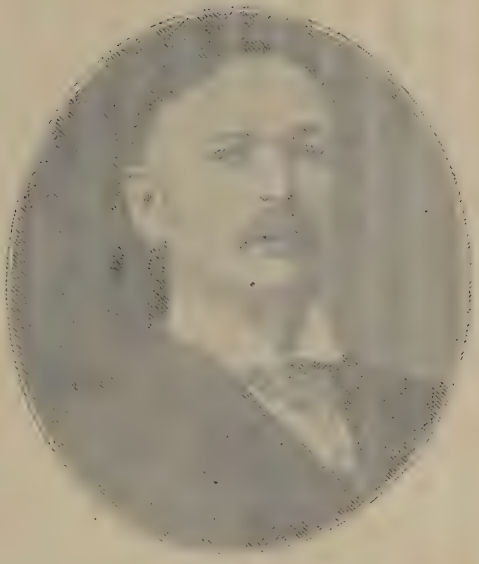
CHAS. M. GRIFFITH
Cashier First National Bank
Visalia

BERT HOLEMAN
Cashier First National Bank
Mountain View

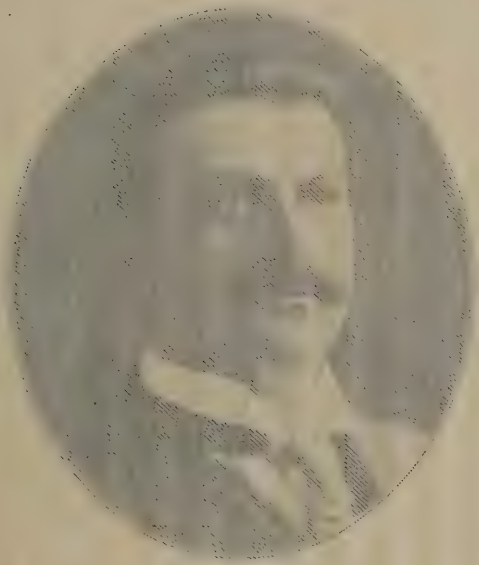
F. N. HAWES
Cashier American National Bank
Monrovia

WM. RHODES HERVEY
Vice President Los Angeles Trust and Savings
Bank, Los Angeles

GEO. TOURNY
Vice President and Manager German Savings and Loan Society, San Francisco



[illegible]
President Mercantile National Bank San Francisco



A. P. GIANNINI
President of the Bank of Italy San Francisco

[illegible] W. WILSON
Vice President Anglo [illegible] London Paris National Bank San Francisco

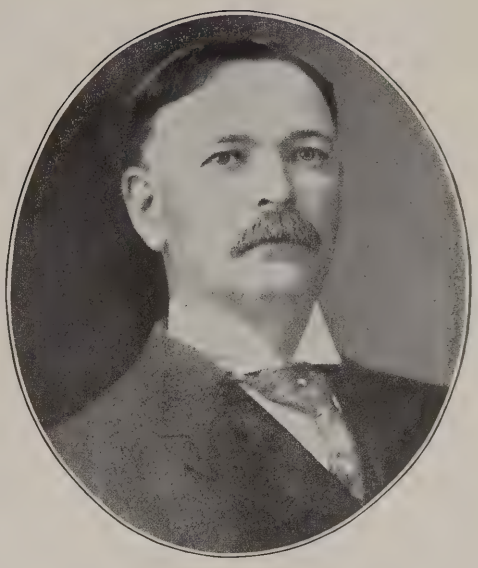
C.B.[illegible] M. GRIFFITH
Cashier First National Bank
Y[illegible]

[illegible]RNT HOLEMAN
Cashier First National Bank
Mountain View

C. S. HAWES
Cashier American National Bank
Monrovia

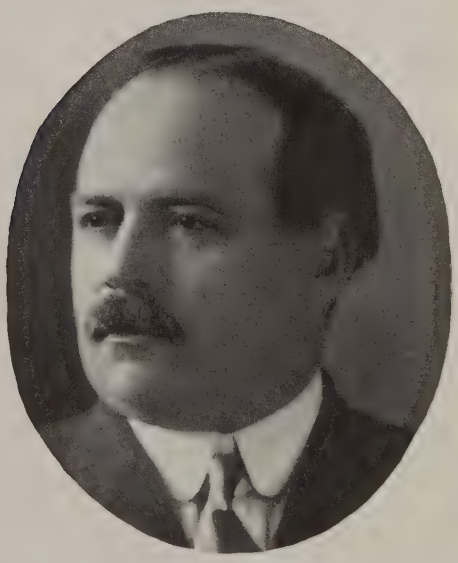
WM. THOMAS HERVEY
Vice President Los Angeles Trust and Savings
Bank, Los Angeles

GEO. TOURNY
Vice President and Manager German Savings and Loan Society, San Francisco



JOHN D. McKEE
President Mercantile National Bank
San Francisco

A. P. GIANNINI
President of the Bank of Italy
San Francisco

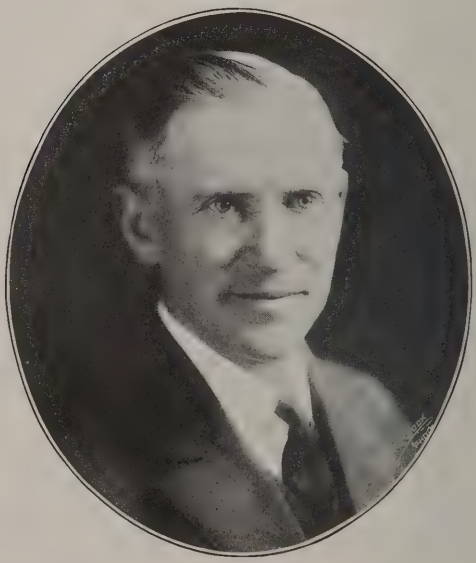


E. W. WILSON
Vice President Anglo & London Paris National Bank
San Francisco

J. M. ELLIOTT
Chairman of Board, First National Bank
Los Angeles

H. S. McKEE
Cashier National Bank of California
Los Angeles

H. A. ESTABROOK
Cashier Seaboard National Bank
San Francisco



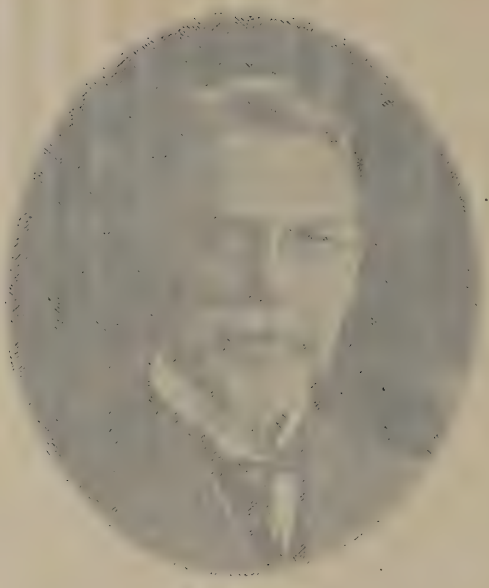
E. U. EMERY
Vice President Glendale Savings Bank
Glendale

L. J. HIGH
Cashier [illegible] National Bank
San Diego

FRANK G. KING
[illegible] Wells Fargo Nevada National Bank
San Francisco

W. H. HIGH
Assistant Cashier Anglo & London Paris National
Bank, San Francisco

JOSEPH R. RANFO
[illegible] Canadian Bank of Commerce
Los Angeles



M. [illegible]
[illegible] National Bank
Los Angeles

R. [illegible] McKEE
Cashier National Bank of California
Los Angeles

H. A. [illegible]BROOK
Cashier Seaboard National Bank
[illegible]

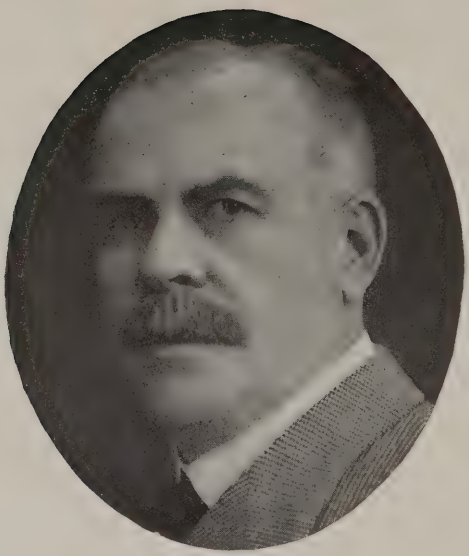
[illegible] EMERY
Vice President Glendale Savings Bank
Glendale

L. J. RICE
Cashier American National Bank
San Diego

FRANK B. KING
Cashier Wells Fargo Nevada National Bank
San Francisco

W. H. HIGH
Assistant Cashier Anglo & London Paris National
Bank, San Francisco

JOSEPH D. RADFORD
Director California Savings and Commercial Bank
Los Angeles



W. N. STEELE
Chairman of the Board First National Bank and
Union Savings Bank, Modesto

C. W. BUSH
President of the Bank of Yolo
Woodland

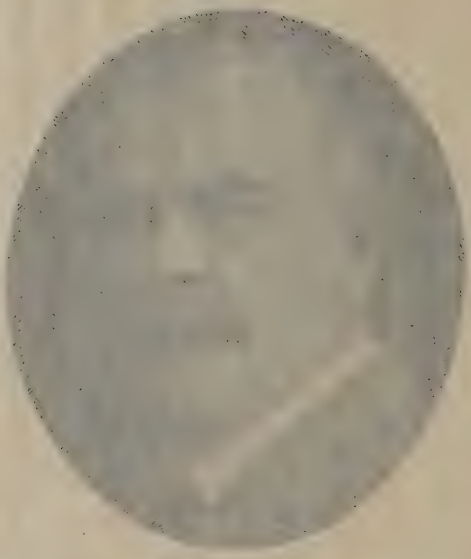
O. J. WOODWARD
President First National Bank
Fresno

CLARENCE M. SMITH
President Merced Security Savings Bank
Merced

E. L. WILHOIT
President Stockton Savings and Loan Society
Bank, Stockton

Cashier First National Bank
Modesto

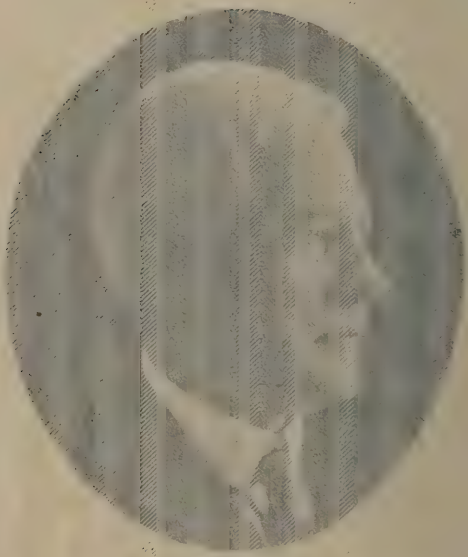
Vallejo Commercial Bank
Vallejo



[illegible]
[illegible] National Bank and
[illegible]

C. A. [illegible]USH
[illegible] Bank of [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]



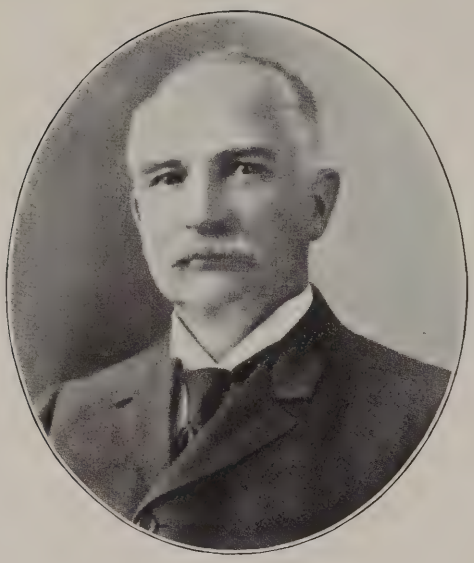
[illegible] M. SMITH
[illegible]
[illegible]

E. L. WILHOIT
President Stockton Savings and Loan Society
Bank, Stockton

G. R. STODDARD
Cashier First National Bank
Modesto

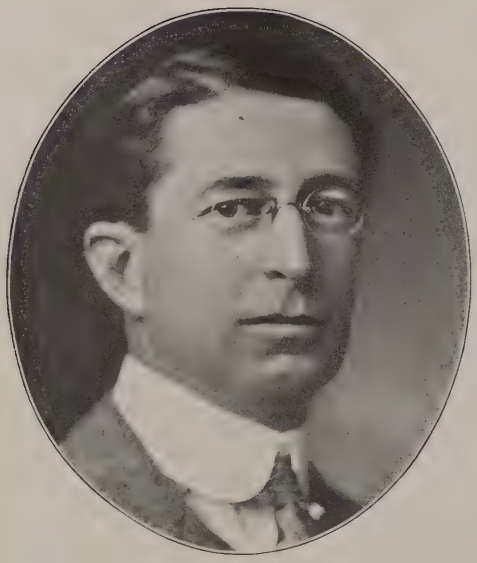
W. K. COLE
President Vallejo Commercial Bank
Vallejo

H. C. CARR
Vice President First National Bank
Porterville



W. E. GERBER
President California National Bank
Sacramento

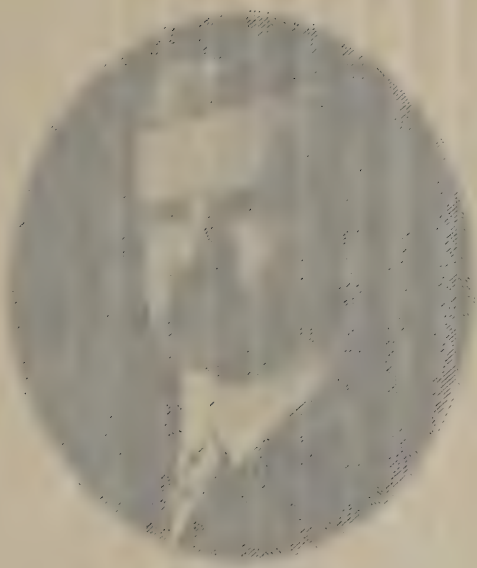
GEO. PELTIER
Vice President California National Bank
Sacramento



HUGH STEWART
Vice President Farmers and Merchants National
Bank, Los Angeles

EGBERT A. BROWN
Assistant Cashier California National Bank
Sacramento

[illegible]
Chairman of Board [illegible] London [illegible]
National Bank [illegible] Francisco



W. S. [illegible]
President [illegible] Bank of [illegible]
Oakland

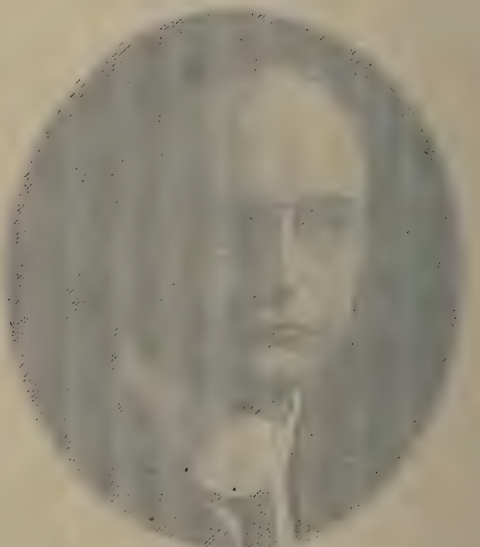
THE LATE [illegible]
President [illegible]

[illegible]

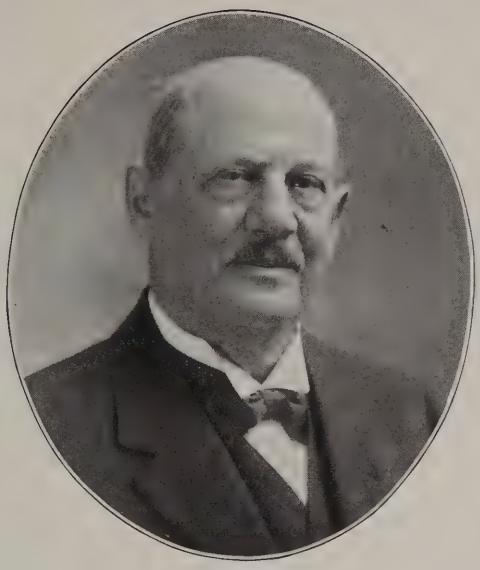
W. [illegible]
President California National Bank
[illegible]

GEO. PELTIER
Vice Presid[illegible]
Sac[illegible]

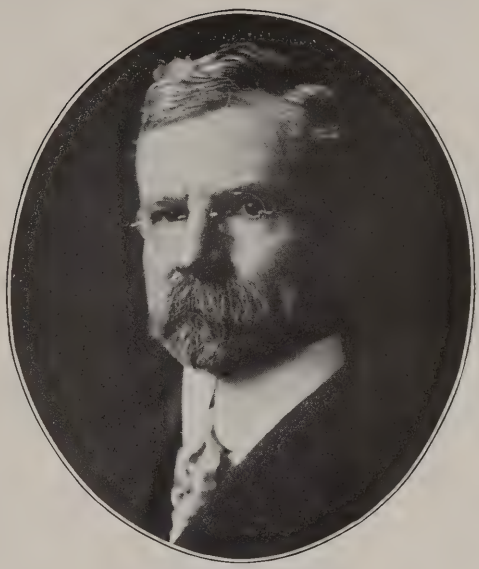
[illegible]



[illegible] A. BROWN
[illegible] California National [illegible]
[illegible]

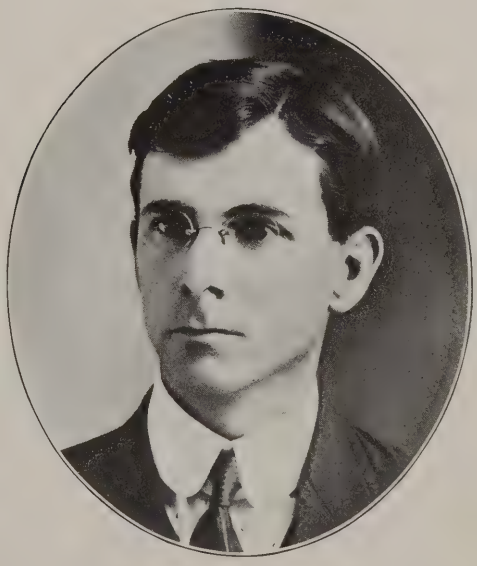


S. GREENEBAUM
Chairman of Board, Anglo & London Paris National Bank, San Francisco



W. W. GARTHWAITE
President Oakland Bank of Savings
Oakland

THE LATE J. F. FUGAZI
President Fugazi Bank
San Francisco

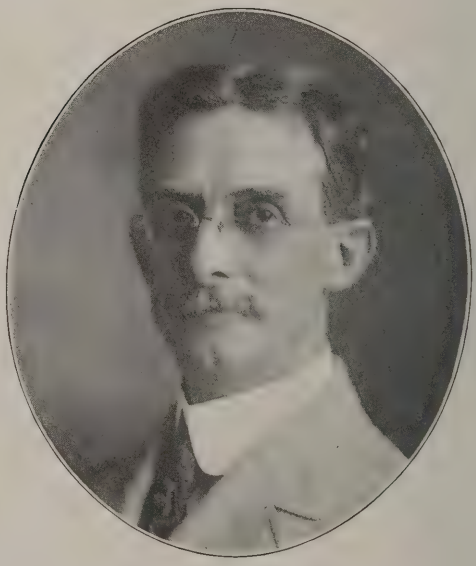


C. O. EVANS
Cashier Riverside Savings Bank and Trust Company, Riverside

WM. BECKMAN
President People's Savings Bank
Sacramento

FRANK L. GUERNSEY
President Farmers and Merchants Bank
Stockton

ELBERT L. ARMSTRONG
Cashier Calistoga National Bank
Calistoga



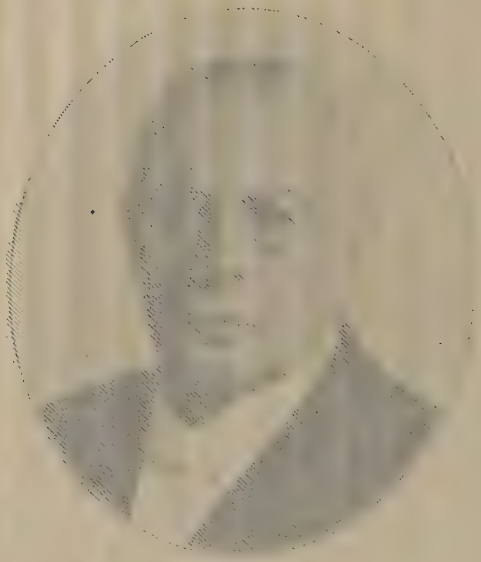
H. G. CANDEE
President of the Bank of Huntington Park
Huntington Park

JAY SPENCE
Cashier Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

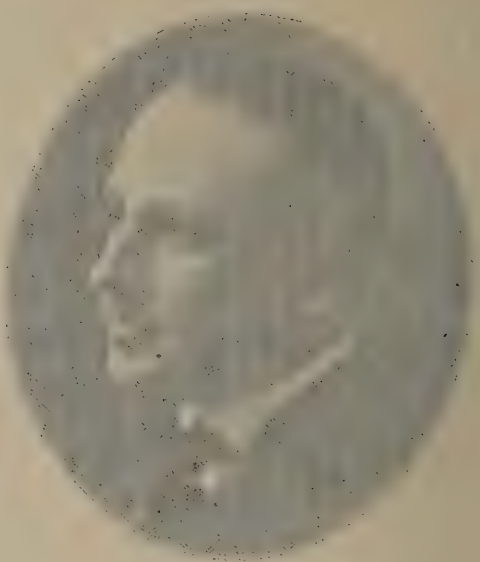
[illegible]
[illegible] Pacific National Bank
Long Beach

C. W. [illegible]
President First Branch Commercial Bank
For Branches

CHAS. A. [illegible]
[illegible] and Cashier First National Bank
[illegible]



WM. BECKM[illegible]
President People's Savings Bank
Sacramento



FRANK L. [illegible]
President Farmers and Merchants Bank
Stockton

GILBERT [illegible] ARMSTRONG
Cashier [illegible] National Bank
Calistoga

H. G. CANDEE
President of the Bank of Huntington Park
Huntington Park

JAY SPENCE
Cashier Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank
Los Angeles

WM. H. WALLACE
Vice President Exchange National Bank
Long Beach

C. W. MATHEWS
President Fort Bragg Commercial Bank
Fort Bragg

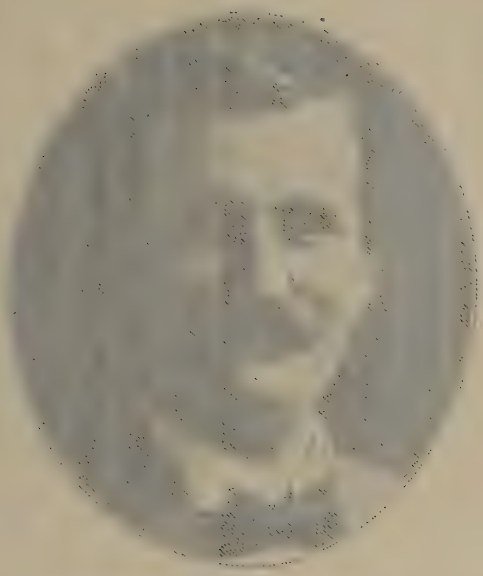
CHAS. J. CRARY
Vice President and Cashier First National Bank
Richmond

JOSEPH FRIEDLANDER
Vice President Anglo & London Paris National Bank
San Francisco

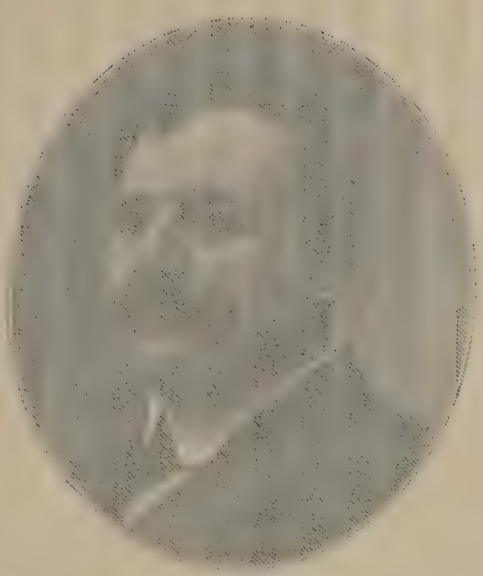
E. C. PECK
President First National Bank
Modesto

W. E. BENZ
Vice President and Cashier First National Bank
Bakersfield

S. F. ZOMBRO
Vice President Security National Bank
Los Angeles

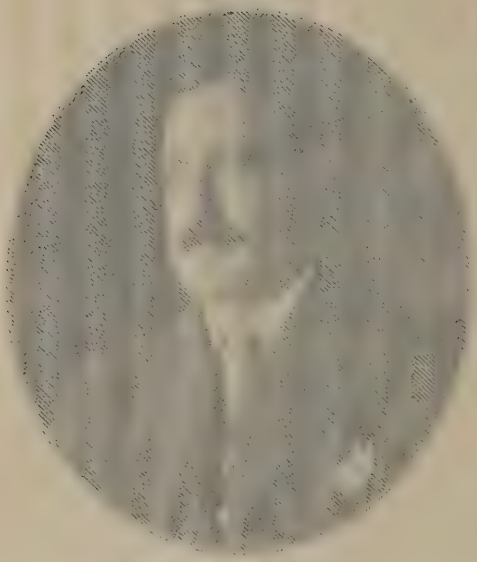


JOS. L. SILVEIRA
President Portuguese American Bank
San Francisco

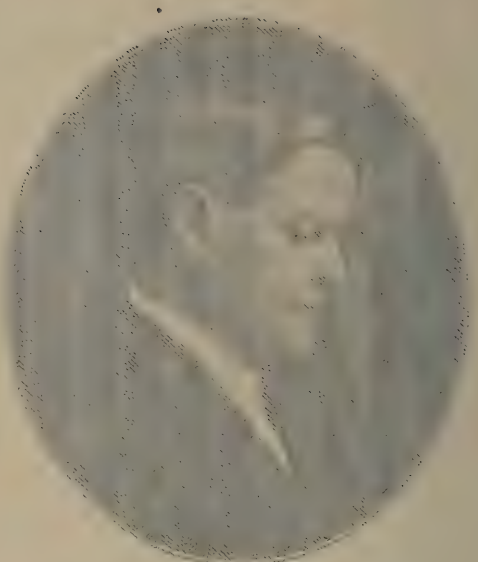


TODARO
Pittsburg

Vice President San Mateo County Savings Bank
Redwood City



JOSEPH FRIEDLANDER
Vice President Anglo & London Paris National Bank
San Francisco



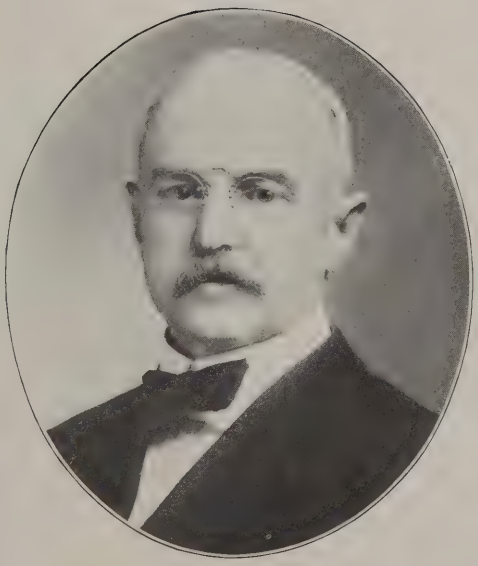
E. C. [illegible]
President First National Bank
Merced

W. E. BEVZ
Vice President and Cashier First National Bank
Bakersfield

S. F. ZOGBAUM
Vice President Security National Bank
Los Angeles

JOS. L. SILVEIRA
Vice President Portuguese American Bank
San Francisco

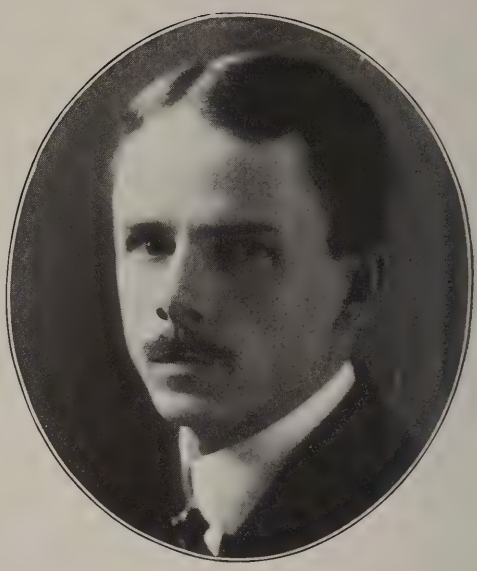
G. TODARO
Cashier Contra Costa County Bank
Pittsburg



A. D. WALSH
Vice President San Mateo County Savings Bank
Redwood City

F. L. THOMAS
Cashier First National Bank of Hemet
Hemet

P. V. MORGAN
Vice President East San Diego Bank
San Diego



N. E. MACBETH
Cashier Security National Bank
Pasadena

C. D. LUSBY
Cashier Glendale Savings Bank
Glendale

C. A. LeBARON
Cashier Dairymen's Bank
Valley Ford

W. P. HARRISON
Vice President First National Bank
Glendale

H. J. ENGELBRECHT
Cashier Bank of Santa Monica
Santa Monica

JAMES O. MOORE
Cashier International Savings and Exchange Bank
Los Angeles

W. A. [illegible]
Cashier First National Bank
Stanwood

C. F. MORGAN
Vice President First San Diego Bank
San Diego

N. S. MACBETH
Cashier Security National Bank
Pasadena

C. O. BUSBY
[illegible] Saving Bank
Glendale

C. A. LeBARON
Cashier Dairymen's Bank
Valley Ford

M. P. HARRISON
Vice President First National Bank
Glendale

H. J. ENGELBRECHT
Cashier Bank of Santa Monica
Santa Monica

JAMES O. MOORE
Cashier International Savings and Exchange Bank
Los Angeles

W. A. CHESS
Cashier First National Bank
Monrovia

NEWMAN ESSICK
Vice President California Commercial and
Savings Bank, Los Angeles

THE LATE SOL. DAVIS
Vice President Continental National Bank
Los Angeles

W. A. DAVIS
Assisiant Cashier First National Bank
Ocean Park

HENRY F. DRYDEN
Assistant Cashier Homestead Savings Bank
Berkeley

Second Vice President Oakland Bank of Savings

Cashier Oakland Bank of Savings

A. W. MOORE
Cashier Oakland Bank of Savings

Assistant Cashier Oakland Bank of Savings

[illegible] ESSICK
Vice President California Commercial and Savings Bank, Los Angeles

THE LATE SOL. [illegible]
Vice President Continental National Bank, Los Angeles

S. A. DAVIS
[illegible] Cashier First National Bank
Ocean Park

HENRY J. [illegible]
President and Cashier Homestead Savings [illegible]
[illegible]

HENRY ROGERS
Second Vice President Oakland Bank of Savings
Oakland

J. Y. ECCLESTON
Cashier Oakland Bank of Savings
Oakland

A. W. MOORE
Assistant Cashier Oakland Bank of Savings
Oakland

F. A. ALLARDT
Assistant Cashier Oakland Bank of Savings
Oakland

SAMUEL BRECK
Assistant Cashier Oakland Bank of Savings
Oakland

W. J. GARDINER
Cashier Exchange National Bank
Long Beach

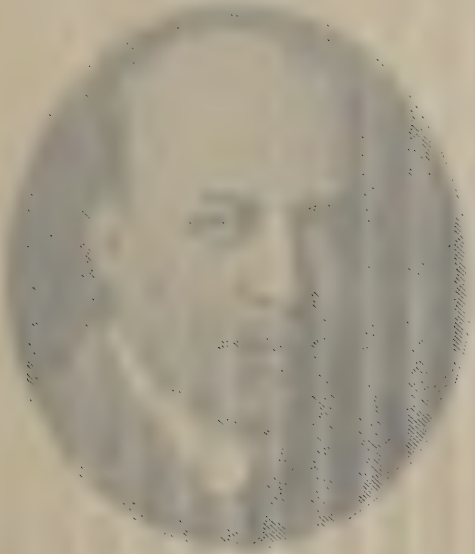
GEO. R. CADAN
Cashier First National Bank
Vallejo

W. B. CLANCY
President Citizens National Bank
Riverside

P. E. BOWLES
Chairman of the Board American National Bank
San Francisco

[illegible]
Assistant Cashier American National Bank
[illegible]

THOMAS MACL[illegible]
President Swiss-American Bank
[illegible]



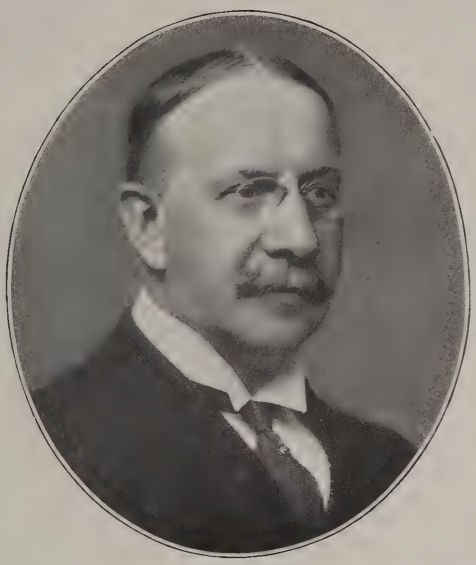
E. L. ROGERS
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible] Bank of Savings
[illegible]kland

W. J. GARDINER
Cashier Exchange National Bank
Long Beach

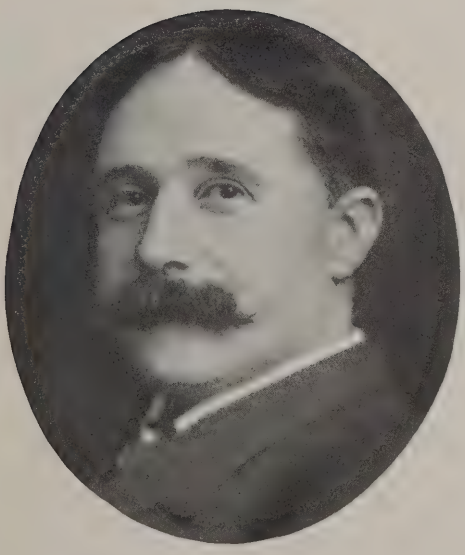
[illegible]
Cashier First National Bank

W. B. [illegible]
President Citizens National Bank



P. E. BOWLES
Chairman of the Board American National Bank
San Francisco

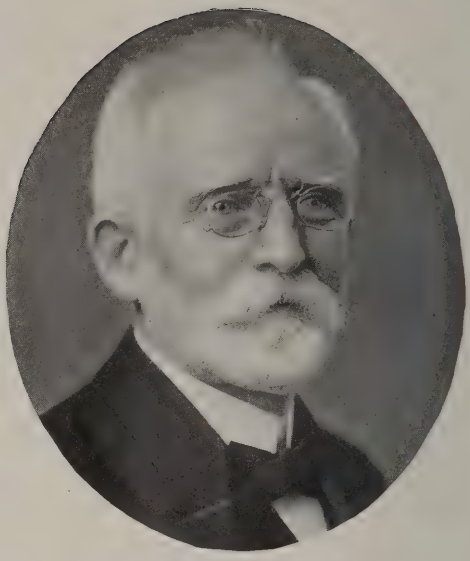
G. M. BOWLES
Assistant Cashier American National Bank
San Francisco



THOMAS MACLAY
President Swiss-American Bank
Petaluma

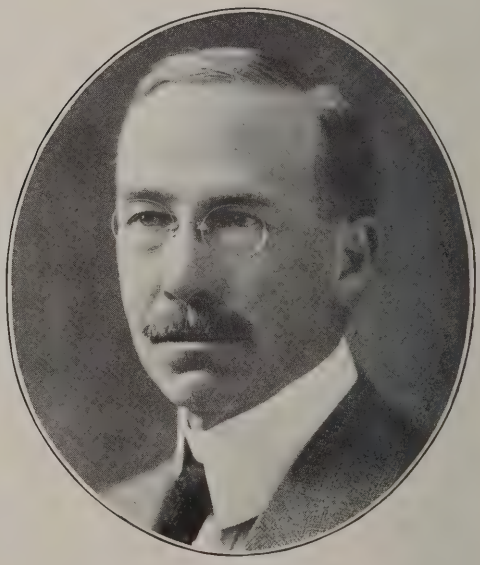
R. I. ROGERS
Vice President Merchants National Bank
Los Angeles

JULIUS WANGENHEIM
Chairman Bank of Commerce and Trust Company
San Diego



M. T. GILMORE
President San Diego Savings Bank
San Diego

MILTON H. EPSTEIN
Cashier Bank of Commerce and Trust Company
San Diego



E. O. HODGE
Cashier Southern Trust and Savings Bank
San Diego

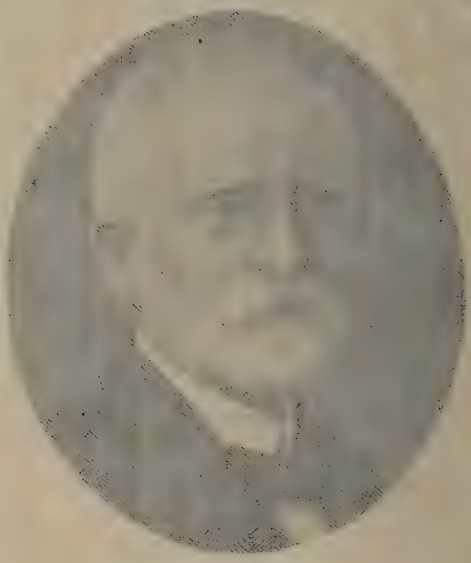
CHARLES M. STONE
President First National Bank
Pomona

S[illegible]
[illegible] First National [illegible]
[illegible]sid

S. MITCHELL
[illegible]dent First National Bank
Visalia

SEVI[illegible]
[illegible]st First National Bank [illegible]
[illegible]g

[illegible] WAGENHEIM
Chairman Board of Commerce and Trust Company
San Diego



M. T. [illegible]
President San Diego Savings Bank
San Diego

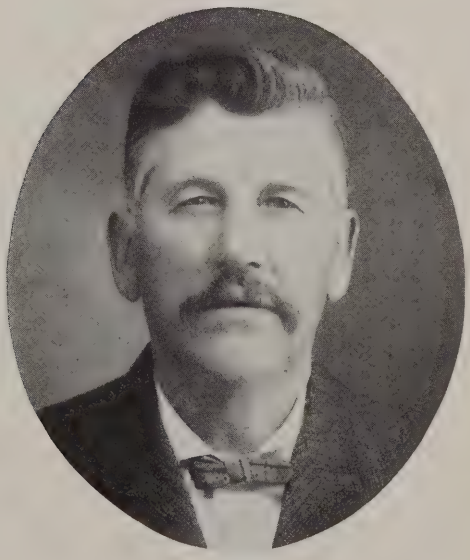
MILTON E. [illegible]
Cashier Bank of Commerce and Trust Company
San Diego

E. O. [illegible]
Cashier Southern Trust and Savings Bank
San Diego

CHARLES M. STONE
President First National Bank
Pomona

W. G. BROWN
Cashier First National Bank
Inglewood

S. MITCHELL
President First National Bank
Visalia



LEVI GARRETT
President First National Bank
Kingsburg

THOS. E. CONNOLLY
Cashier Stockton Savings and Loan Society Bank
Stockton

CHARLES DONLON
President First National Bank
Oxnard

W. S. CLAYTON
President First National Bank
Stockton

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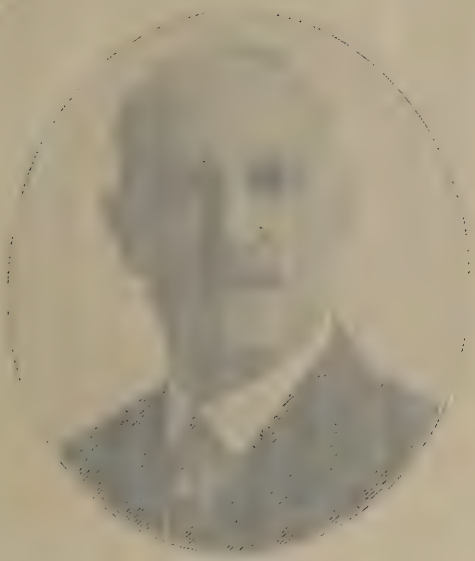

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